OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

Native Business Network gets in the holiday spirit

GAMING - A5

PRSRT FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 1541
Okla City, OK

Rayon retires after 27 years with MCN

PROGRAMS/NOTICES - A7

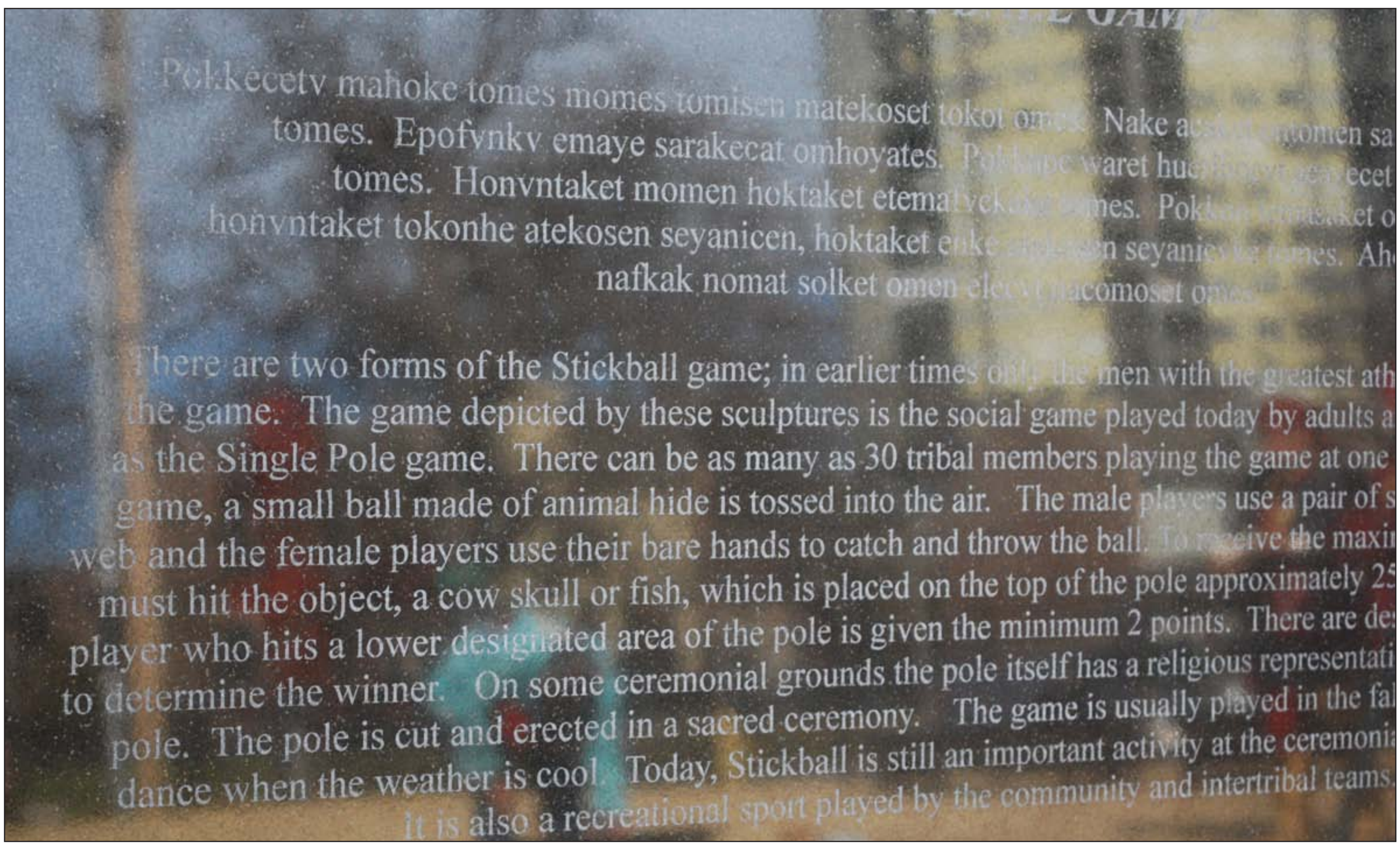
MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

JANUARY 2009
Volume 39, Issue 1
SEMI-MONTHLY

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

"Not just a ball game"

• OK Centennial Commission recognizes Native stickball park



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tomes. Honvntaket momen hoktaket etema[illegible]mes. Pok[illegible]ket o
honvntaket tokonhe atekosen seyanicen, hoktaket e[illegible]n seyanic[illegible]es. Ah
nafkak nomat solket omen ele[illegible]acomoset om[illegible]

There are two forms of the Stickball game; in earlier times o[illegible] the men with the greatest ath
the game. The game depicted by these sculptures is the social game played today by adults a
as the Single Pole game. There can be as many as 30 tribal members playing the game at one
game, a small ball made of animal hide is tossed into the air. The male players use a pair of s
web and the female players use their bare hands to catch and throw the ball. To receive the maxi
must hit the object, a cow skull or fish, which is placed on the top of the pole approximately 25
player who hits a lower designated area of the pole is given the minimum 2 points. There are de
to determine the winner. On some ceremonial grounds the pole itself has a religious representati
pole. The pole is cut and erected in a sacred ceremony. The game is usually played in the fal
dance when the weather is cool. Today, Stickball is still an important activity at the ceremonia
It is also a recreational sport played by the community and intertribal teams.

MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Pictured above is an explanation of the game of stickball which was recently inscribed upon a piece of marble for the dedication of the new stickball park in the Council Oak Park of Tvlse. Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court Justice and traditional leader Amos McNac may also be seen in the reflection.

PLAYING THE GAME

The dedication of the stickball park located in historic Council Oak Park in Tvlse recognizes both Mvskoke and Oklahoma as important pieces of the state's history. The park was dedicated by the Centennial Commemoration Commission on Fri., Dec. 19 at a ceremony for tribal, ceremonial and city officials.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis is a descendent of the Locv Pokv Tribal Town. His acknowledgement and support of the original Mvskoke culture and traditions have led many to believe that the Ellis Administration has truly succeeded in bridging the long time gap between the tribal administration and the ceremonial grounds.

MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Stickball park dedication

• City of Tulsa supports tribal culture with new bronze statues

by Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Pictured above is Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Advisor Tim Thompson (right) presenting a pair of beaded ball sticks to Cochair of the Oklahoma Centennial Commemoration Commission Don Walker (left).

TVLSE — A bronze sculpture titled "Not Just A Ball Game" was added to the list of Oklahoma Centennial projects for the city of Tvlse this year on Fri. Dec.19. The sculpture features three Native American youth playing stickball, which is a traditional game with ceremonial significance in Native American (Mvskoke) culture. A plaque near the sculpture explains how stickball is "Not Just A Game" to some ceremonial grounds. The ball-pole itself is sometimes recognized as a religious symbol, and some even call it a prayer pole.

At the ceremony, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis presented Mvskoke Stompdance belts to Susan Neal and artist Sandra Van Zandt as well as a framed print of the Council Oak Tree to Tvlse Mayor Kathy Taylor. Sandra and Doug Van Zandt presented Principal Chief Ellis a miniature version of the statue (now on display in the lobby of the tribal complex) in honor of the active sixteen ceremonial grounds. Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Advisor Tim Thompson presented a pair of beaded youth size ball sticks, stickball and a beaded Seka Likv (horse hair hat ornament), all items made by traditional Mvskoke people to Co-chair of the Oklahoma Centennial Commemoration Commission Don Walker.

Thompson also read the inscription on the monument in Mvskoke and gave a brief history of the game itself, describing how the ball-pole is cut and erected in a sacred ceremonial manner. According to elder Eunice Hill of Nuyaka, only certain people can place the pole. Presently, out of sixteen remaining ceremonial grounds, less than half still have the traditional east-west games annually.

Nuyaka Ceremonial Ground member and Muscogee (Creek) Chief Supreme Court Justice Amos McNac performed a blessing with the assistance of Judge Patrick E. Moore and Mike Berryhill. The statues were made possible through a $250,000 donation from the Oklahoma Centennial Commemoration Commission. In addition to the sculpture, this provides park amenities including wrought iron fencing, new sidewalks, landscaping, irrigation and benches will be added to the park.

Those in attendance included tribal officials Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Second Chief Alfred L. Berryhill and National Council Speaker Thomas Yahola. National Council Representatives present were: Cherrah Quiett, Paula Willits, James Jennings and Pete Beaver. Ceremonial Grounds represented were Hickory Ground, Nuyaka, Peach Ground, New Tulsa and Arbeka.

Principal Chief vetoes two tribal resolutions

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

TULSA — On Dec. 5, 2008 Principal Chief A.D. Ellis returned TR 08-123 and TR 08-124 to the National Council as a veto with objections. Both resolutions were passed by the National Council at the Nov. 22 meeting. 24 members of the Council were present for the vote.

TR 08-123, classified as Health and Safety, confirmed the nomination of Alef "Nancy" Graham to serve as the person possessing knowledge and experience in business administration, finance and budgets to the MCN Health System Board of Directors.

SEE VETO - B8

"I believe that it is time for new people and ideas to serve on the Health System Board of Directors."
- A.D. Ellis
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Principal Chief

Creek literature class offered through OSU/Emory

by Ted Isham
Creek Council House Museum

OKMULGEE — Do you want to broaden your horizons on the wealth and depth of Creek Literature? What is the body of work that comprises Creek Literature anyway? How does the literature inform the actual or perceived worldview of the Muscogee people? Where can this lead us?

If you want to explore these and other interesting questions and have a need to expand your knowledge base of Creek writers, then this class is for you.

A Creek literature and language class will be taught at OSU-Okmulgee and will be sponsored by Emory University of Atlanta Ga., and the Creek Council House Museum. The class will begin on Thurs. Jan. 15 at 12 noon for one hour on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the Spring 2009 semester. Distance learning utilizing interactive internet TV at the OSU-Okmulgee campus is the method of delivery for this class.

SEE CLASS - A8

EXECUTIVE A2
Notice: Vergel Bautista

TRIBAL COUNCIL A3
National Council minutes

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION NATIONAL COUNCIL
2008-2009

LEGISLATIVE A4
Remembering Wilbur "Chebon" Gouge as former District Rep. and National Council Speaker

BUSINESS/GAMING A5
Tulsa Casino update

HEALTH A6
Skin Deep: Inside Out

EDUCATION A8
Okemah Community sponsors financial aid workshop

Communications Department - P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447

EXECUTIVE

Muscogee Nation News
STAFF
Manager - Lucas Taylor
Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
Senior Writer - Angel Ellis
Graphic Design - Carla Brown
Graphic Design - Crystal Lumpkin
Advertising - Ruth Bible
Feature Writer - Gerald Wofford
Sports Writer - Jason Salsman
Reporter - Starla Bush
Reporter - Joshua Slane
Reporter - Jennifer Taryole
Circulation - Wilma Murphy

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Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Yardeka to host economic development session

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

YARDEKA – The Yardeka Indian Community will host a community economic development training session on Sat., Jan. 24 at the Yardeka Indian Community Center.

The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. and last through the afternoon at 2 p.m. All community members are invited to attend.

Lunch will be provided by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Research and Development Office.

For more information, please contact Community Research and Development (918) 732 - 7963.

Dewar Community to host food sale and bingo

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

DEWAR – The Dewar Indian Community will host a food sale and bingo at 5:30 p.m., on Fri., Jan. 9 at the community center located at 212 N. Luella in Dewar. All are welcome to attend.

District Court filings for November 2008

Civil:

Lonnie Lee v. Johnny Harjo	Foreign Judgment
Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. Two Thousand Dollar, Four Hundred, Ninety-Eight Dollars and no/100 ($2,498.00) Cash Jackpot and Six Hundred Eight Dollars and 54/100 ($608.54) Tickets	Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture
Empire Finance v. Robyn Locust	Small Claims
Merchants and Professional Collection Service v. Pamela Cassel	Small Claims
Sun Loan Company v. Beatrice Fry	Small Claims
Loan Plus v. Tammy Rabbit	Small Claims
Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. One Thousand Two Hundred and no/100 ($1200.00) Jackpot	Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture
Royal Finance v. Melissa Williams	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Mandy Harjo	Small Claims
Loan Plus v. Daniel Warrior	Small Claims
Loan Plus v. Trinity Edgerton	Small Claims
Jason Waquie v. Heather Berry	Petition
Sheri Raefield v. Johnny Wallace	Petition

Divorce:

Sharon Mills v. James Mills	Divorce
Anthony Chisholm v. Wendy Chisholm	Divorce
Tonya Collett v. Paul Collett	Divorce
Gladys Haikey v. Ellis Haikey Jr.	Divorce
Serena Drinnon v. Randall Drinnon	Divorce
Elizabeth Ward v. Reginald Ward	Divorce
Mary Brown v. Brandon Brown	Divorce
Kenneth Davis v. Arlene Davis	Divorce
Jimmy Edmundson v. Amy Edmundson	Divorce

Family Domestic:

CSE, ex rel., Krystal Wind v. Freeland Lindsey	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Georgia Proctor v. Justin Wildcat	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Barbara Miller v. Robert Harley	Child Support
Martin Solorzano Sr., v. CSE, ex rel., Mary Solorzano	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Shelly Vishy v. Corey Vishy	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Amandina Delacadena v. Donald Batchelor Jr.	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Janelle Lader v. Donald Batchelor Jr.	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Stacey Jones v. Donald Batchelor Jr.	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Alexis Crosley v. Sercial Crosley	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Nicholas Noah v. Summer Noah	Child Support

Ex-Parte:

Serena Drinnon v. Randall Drinnon	Ex-Parte
Betty Beaver v. Ocie Lee-Smith	Ex-Parte

Criminal Misdemeanors:

MCN v. Donna Arnold	Ct. 1: Assault
MCN v. David Harjo	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication

Criminal Felonies:

MCN v. Jamie Hammond	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
MCN v. Scott McCaslin	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia

Traffic:

MCN v. Loretta Buckner	Ct. 1: No Driver's License
MCN v. Loretta Buckner	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. David Ryals	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. David Ryals	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Carrie Morris	Ct. 1: Driving while Revoked
MCN v. Darla Martin	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Jon Spaulding	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Lance Jorgenson	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. William Edgar	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Peter McLaughlin	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Brandyn Draper	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Brandyn Draper	Ct. 1: Possession of Firearm on Tribal Property
MCN v. Larry Soils	Ct. 1: Improper Backing, Starting, Stopping and Turning
MCN v. Robert Cole	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. James Reinert	Ct. 1: Duties in Event of an Accident
MCN v. Lawrence Staley	Ct. 1: Trespassing
MCN v. Larry Baker	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Brian Shaw	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Fred Rentry	Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol on Tribal

Letters to the Editor

First Southeastern tribes: Cherokee vs. Muscogee Creek

My paternal family is suppose to show lineage, non-enrolled branch Creek Berryhill clan lower Creek towns, Ga. I just began to subscribe to Muscogee (Creek) tribal news took note of article making case Muscogee Creek tribe occupied documented Cherokee territory Tennessee and Caroline proximity to 1600.

If above was case likely Cherokee population prior to 1600 had communities Kentucky, West Virginia, proper to west of the tide water and Powhattan Confederation.

Just finished reading title "In The Hands of the Great Spirit" by non native author and Smithsonian researcher Jakes Page. Page addresses one line or two about the Cherokee tribe being unofficially in reality the largest tribe north of Mexico.

By 1800 half blood Cherokee extended families occupied eight Appalachian states and had began a presence in Ozarks, Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and East Texas. Likely Creek / Muscogee hunting and trading junkets also migrated into said regions.

Trade and political intrigues between Cherokee and Creeks was a constant southeast form 100s up to post war of 1812. Again I have family tree showing descent through late dad Derrisaw Berryhill Clan Coweta.

However about 2000 still trying to document paternal great grand dad had several page of genealogy one investigator researcher established ancestress a quarter Creek with name "Ehlina" variation of Cherokee name Tianna" after Tianna Rogers Gentry Houston the mixed blood, beloved woman, old settler, Arkansas, Cherokee and second wife Sam Houston.

It remains likely by seventeen hundred if the Cherokee towns had established Kentucky, Virginia and West Virginia friction with Six Nations, Shawnee, other northern Nation would have pushed Cherokees southward.

Documented Battle Taliwa mid seventeen hundreds Creek pushed southward upper towns, central Alabama. Until 1800 Muschel Shoals region Tennessee river was no man's land, Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw and Muscogee hunted and occasionally fought each other commencing revolutionary war for decade saw repeated war parties of the Creek Nation dispatched by chieftain as Alexander McGillvray to dislodge Anglo American squatters.

One telling figure out of Page new paperback Simon and Schuster 2004 was at the high point of removal five civilized tribes alone pushing one hundred thousand people. Likely breakdown 30,000 Creeks, 30,000 Choctaw, 30,000 Cherokee (with minimum five to ten thousand more western Cherokee) Chickasaw and Seminole Nation both pushing 5,000 by blood each. Cherokees and Creeks possess tribal regional rivalries we know go back several hundred years likely debate about who first settled North American southeast, originally, may persist another several hundred years.

Citizens calls for health care reform

Greetings Chief Ellis,

I am a full-blood voting citizen of the Oceapofa (Hickory Ground) Tribal Town, and elder of the Muscogee Creek Nation who has resided in the state of Georgia, our ancestral home, since May of 1972. At that time I was a student at Northeastern Oklahoma State University in Tahlequah under the administration of Chief Claude Cox. A group of twenty native brothers and sisters from Oklahoma accepted the invitation from the president of the Chamber of Commerce in Macon to work in support of Living History Program at the Ocmulgee National Park. After a year, I was one of five who took advantage of the ten scholarships offered at Mercer University and stayed to complete my education. In 1975 I graduated with a double major in art and history, achieving a Masters in history in 1982. In December of 1978 I was appointed Southeastern Director for the state of Georgia State Commissioner of Indian Affairs under Lt. Zell Miller (now Senator) while continuing to teach within the Bibb County School System.

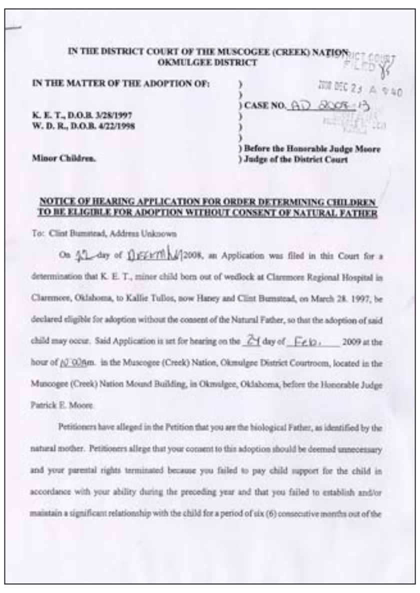
Since that time, I have elected to remain here in our ancestral home in which I am the last of the original twenty participants. Even after having resigned as a teacher in the public school realm, diverse opportunities to educate and represent our people have been abundant and enthusiastically received. I am thankful for all the good years here, where my calling and gifting have been appreciated, and I've always been able to stay in touch with family members in Oklahoma. Though it has not always been an easy road, this is home, where a variety of work has supported me, mainly in the construction field. I am who I am where ever I go and I am proud of my heritage.

This August I am approaching my sixtieth birthday, and as we all know, age, accompanied with the challenges of a present unstable economy, brings many difficulties. I can no longer operate within the working circumstances to which I have been accustomed. My story is common to many, though I consider myself to be unique in that I am Native and prefer seeking assistance from the tribe independent of an appeal to the Federal Government. As you have advocated in the *Muscogee Nation News*, should we not, as a people, do everything we can to take care of our own with the resources we have available – where I would add – regardless of where we reside? Home is where the heart is, especially our ancestral home. As I have had the privilege of voting for you, should I not be entitled as well to needed benefits? I am proud and have never asked the tribe for anything, but at this place in my life's journey, I find myself very much in need of medical and living assistance. I feel that as a proud nation within a nation, we should encourage competency to be more self-supporting.

In summary, I have approached other principal Muscogee Chiefs with no positive results. In lieu of your past administration, I appeal to you now with a greater hope that more fruitful results are possible. Will you help me? I am requesting a response.

Sincerely,
Chumsey Harjo

Notices



DISTRICT COURT FILED
2008 DEC 23 A 9:40

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF:

K. E. T., D.O.B. 3/28/1997
W. D. R., D.O.B. 4/22/1998

Minor Children.

CASE NO. AD 2008-13

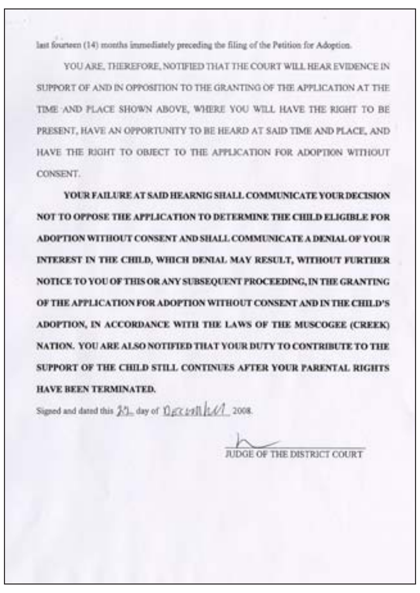
Before the Honorable Judge Moore
Judge of the District Court

NOTICE OF HEARING APPLICATION FOR ORDER DETERMINING CHILDREN TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT OF NATURAL FATHER

To: Clint Bumstead, Address Unknown

On 22 day of December 2008, an Application was filed in this Court for a determination that K. E. T., minor child born out of wedlock at Claremore Regional Hospital in Claremore, Oklahoma, to Kallie Tullos, now Haney and Clint Bumstead, on March 28, 1997, be declared eligible for adoption without the consent of the Natural Father, so that the adoption of said child may occur. Said Application is set for hearing on the 24 day of Feb. 2009 at the hour of 10:00 a.m. in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District Courtroom, located in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound Building, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore.

Petitioners have alleged in the Petition that you are the biological Father, as identified by the natural mother. Petitioners allege that your consent to this adoption should be deemed unnecessary and your parental rights terminated because you failed to pay child support for the child in accordance with your ability during the preceding year and that you failed to establish and/or maintain a significant relationship with the child for a period of six (6) consecutive months out of the



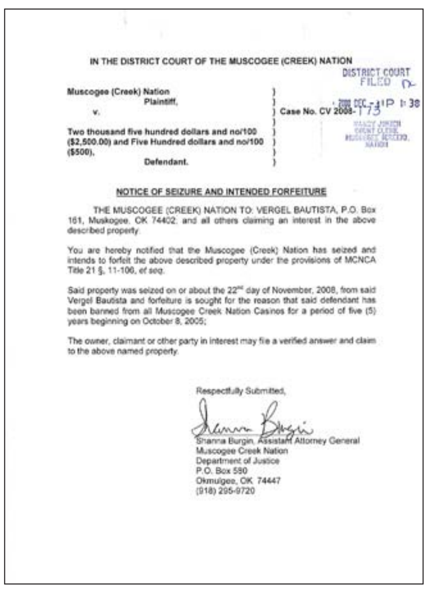
last fourteen (14) months immediately preceding the filing of the Petition for Adoption.

YOU ARE, THEREFORE, NOTIFIED THAT THE COURT WILL HEAR EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF AND IN OPPOSITION TO THE GRANTING OF THE APPLICATION AT THE TIME AND PLACE SHOWN ABOVE, WHERE YOU WILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE PRESENT, HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD AT SAID TIME AND PLACE, AND HAVE THE RIGHT TO OBJECT TO THE APPLICATION FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT.

YOUR FAILURE AT SAID HEARNIG SHALL COMMUNICATE YOUR DECISION NOT TO OPPOSE THE APPLICATION TO DETERMINE THE CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT AND SHALL COMMUNICATE A DENIAL OF YOUR INTEREST IN THE CHILD, WHICH DENIAL MAY RESULT, WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE TO YOU OF THIS OR ANY SUBSEQUENT PROCEEDING, IN THE GRANTING OF THE APPLICATION FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT AND IN THE CHILD'S ADOPTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION. YOU ARE ALSO NOTIFIED THAT YOUR DUTY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUPPORT OF THE CHILD STILL CONTINUES AFTER YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS HAVE BEEN TERMINATED.

Signed and dated this 22 day of December 2008.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

DISTRICT COURT FILED
2008 DEC -1 P 1:38

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Plaintiff,
v.
Two thousand five hundred dollars and no/100 ($2,500.00) and Five Hundred dollars and no/100 ($500),
Defendant.

Case No. CV 2008-173

NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND INTENDED FORFEITURE

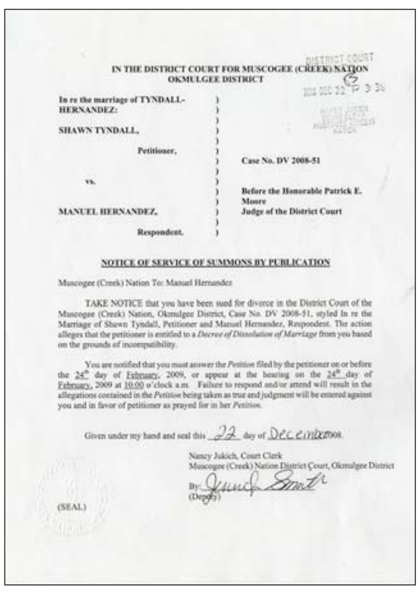
THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: VERGEL BAUTISTA, P.O. Box 161, Muskogee, OK 74402; and all others claiming an interest in the above described property.

You are hereby notified that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has seized and intends to forfeit the above described property under the provisions of MCNCA Title 21 §, 11-106, *et seq.*

Said property was seized on or about the 22nd day of November, 2008, from said Vergel Bautista and forfeiture is sought for the reason that said defendant has been banned from all Muscogee Creek Nation Casinos for a period of five (5) years beginning on October 8, 2005;

The owner, claimant or other party in interest may file a verified answer and claim to the above named property.

Respectfully Submitted,
Shanna Burgin
Shanna Burgin, Assistant Attorney General
Muscogee Creek Nation
Department of Justice
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 295-9720



DISTRICT COURT
2008 DEC 22 P 3:36

IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the marriage of TYNDALL-HERNANDEZ:

SHAWN TYNDALL,
Petitioner,

vs.

MANUEL HERNANDEZ,
Respondent.

Case No. DV 2008-51

Before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore
Judge of the District Court

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Manuel Hernandez

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV 2008-51, styled In re the Marriage of Shawn Tyndall, Petitioner and Manuel Hernandez, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

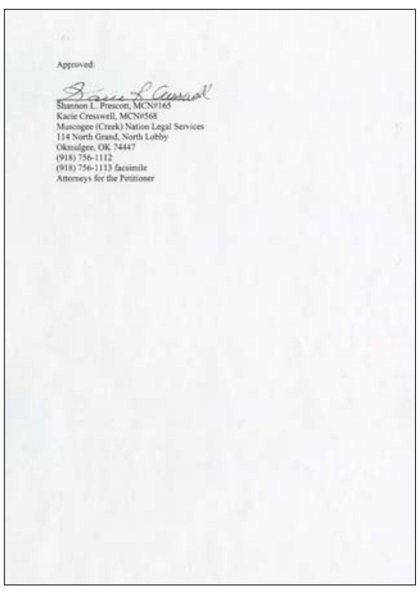
You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner on or before the 24th day of February, 2009, or appear at the hearing on the 24th day of February, 2009 at 10:00 o'clock a.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 22 day of December 2008.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Jennifer Smith
(Deputy)

(SEAL)



Approved:

Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kacie Cresswell, MCN#568
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legal Services
114 North Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113 facsimile
Attorneys for the Petitioner

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE **NOVEMBER 22, REGULAR SESSION**.

NOVEMBER 22, REGULAR SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES **CHERRAH QUIETT** AND **DARRELL PROCTOR** WERE EXCUSED.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA AND RETURN BACK TO COMMITTEE (14-9-0) TR 08-110, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **JUDY AARON** AS THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM SPONSOR: **CHERRAH QUIETT**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **ADAM JONES III, PETE BEAVER, DAVID NICHOLS, KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE ANDERSON, JAMES JENNINGS, STEVE BRUNER, PAULA WILLITS** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) TR 08-114, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REPEALING TR 08-029 (A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A STUDY OF NATIONAL COUNCIL COMPENSATION WITH RESPECT TO TAXATION PROVISIONS FOR SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE) SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) TR 08-116, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **NELSON SCOTT HARJO** TO SERVE ON THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CITIZENSHIP BOARD SPONSOR: **DAVID NICHOLS**; CO-SPONSOR: **PETE BEAVER**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-2-0) TR 08-118, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO EXECUTE AN ATTORNEY AGREEMENT WITH DAVID MCCULLOUGH SPONSOR: **DAVID NICHOLS**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **P. WILLITS; P. BEAVER**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **SHIRLENE ADE** AND **KARA MEDINA**.

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) TR 08-119, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN UNDERGROUND RIGHT-OF-WAY EASEMENT AND CONVEY SAID EASEMENT TO PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF OKLAHOMA FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING ELECTRICITY TO THE SITE OF THE RIVER SPIRIT CASINO SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (18-5-0) TR 08-120, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING BEER SALES AT THE FOUNTAINHEAD GOLF COURSE SPONSOR: **ADAM JONES III**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **T. SCOTT; P. BEAVER**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE ANDERSON, CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS, SHIRLENE ADE** AND **KARA MEDINA**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) TR 08-121, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO EXPAND PARKING AT CREEK NATION CASINO TULSA AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS WITH SELECTED CONTRACTORS FOR SAID EXPANSIONS SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS**; CO-SPONSOR: **PETE BEAVER**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (20-3-0) TR 08-122, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HONORING AND RECOGNIZING MR. **DAN SINE** AS THE FORMER GENERAL MANAGER OF THE TULSA CASINO AND BESTOWING SPECIAL RECOGNITION UPON HIM FOR HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS SPONSOR: **RON CLEGHORN**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **R. BARNETT; E. LAGRONE; K. MEDINA**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DAVID NICHOLS, TERRIE ANDERSON** AND **JAMES JENNINGS**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (13-10-0) TR 08-123, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE RE-NOMINATION OF **ALEF "NANCY" GRAHAM** TO SERVE ON THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPONSOR: **KARA MEDINA**; CO-SPONSOR: **LENA WIND**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **LARRY CAHWEE, ADAM JONES III, SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN, PETE BEAVER, DAVID NICHOLS, TERRIE ANDERSON, JAMES JENNINGS, STEVE BRUNER, PAULA WILLITS** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (14-9-0) TR 08-124, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE RE-NOMINATION OF DR. **HOWARD CONDREN** TO SERVE ON THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPONSOR: **KARA MEDINA**; CO-SPONSOR: **LENA WIND**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **LARRY CAHWEE, PETE BEAVER, DAVID NICHOLS, KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE ANDERSON, JAMES JENNINGS, STEVE BRUNER, PAULA WILLITS** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

• FAILED ON THE FLOOR TO ADOPT (11-12-0) TR 08-125, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE TO NEGOTIATE A DEFINITIVE ENGAGEMENT WITH CERTAIN BANKS FOR THE PERMANENT FINANCING OF THE RIVER SPIRIT CASINO SPONSOR: **STEVE BRUNER**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DAVID HILL, ROGER BARNETT, ADAM JONES III, EDDIE LAGRONE, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, BILL FIFE, TERRIE ANDERSON, CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS, SHIRLENE ADE, RON CLEGHORN** AND **KARA MEDINA**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (13-10-0) TR 08-126, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING A MANDATE LETTER AMENDMENT BETWEEN THE NATION AND MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH SPONSOR: **STEVE BRUNER**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **S. ALEXANDER; P. BEAVER; D. NICHOLS; S. JAYNE-DORNAN; L. CAHWEE; P. WILLITS**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DAVID HILL, ROGER BARNETT, ADAM JONES III, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, BILL FIFE, CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS, SHIRLENE ADE, RON CLEGHORN** AND **KARA MEDINA**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) TR 08-127, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REQUESTING THE COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE FOR THE MAYOR OF CHATTANOOGA, TN, THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT AND OTHER PARTIES THAT NEED TO BE INCLUDED REGARDING THE REMAINS OF MUSCOGEE (CREEK) AND EUCHEE ANCESTORS LOCATED IN THE CHATTANOOGA, TN AREA SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **E. LAGRONE; D. NICHOLS; K. MEDINA; L. WIND; R. HUFFT; T. ANDERSON**

• TABLED (16-7-0) NCA 08-104, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM FOR START-UP COSTS AND CONTINUING OPERATIONS OF AN URGENT CARE FACILITY IN WETUMKA SPONSOR: **KARA MEDINA**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **S. ADE; T. YAHOLA; R. CLEGHORN; E. LAGRONE** ($1,373,910.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **ROGER BARNETT, EDDIE LAGRONE, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, TERRIE ANDERSON, RON CLEGHORN** AND **KARA MEDINA**.

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (19-4-0) NCA 08-172, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE "FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME" ORGANIZATION FOR ACTIVITIES SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT**; CO-SPONSOR: **JAMES JENNINGS** ($66,682.50)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **PETE BEAVER, TERRIE ANDERSON, SHIRLENE ADE** AND **PAULA WILLITS**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) NCA 08-185, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF THE COPS TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT GRANT AWARDED TO THE LIGHTHORSE TRIBAL POLICE SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE** ($380,000.00)

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION NATIONAL COUNCIL
Session Palen - Cahkepohkaken (15)
2008-2009

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-1-0) NCA 08-186, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE RIVER SPIRIT CASINO FOR VAULT AND ATM CASH SPONSOR: **DAVID NICHOLS** ($3,500,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **RON CLEGHORN**.

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) NCA 08-188, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TRANSFERRING FUNDS FROM THE DUCK CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY TO THE NATION TO BE USED FOR THE RENOVATION OF THE RANCH HOUSE UTILIZED BY THE DUCK CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY SPONSOR: **DAVID NICHOLS**

REPRESENTATIVE **TRAVIS SCOTT** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (15-7-0) NCA 08-189, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPOPRIATION TO THE HENRYETTA PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR EXTENSIVE REPAIR TO THE BUILDING SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON** ($2,200.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **PETE BEAVER, TERRIE ANDERSON, JAMES JENNINGS, PAULA WILLITS, KARA MEDINA, ROBERT HUFFT** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

REPRESENTATIVES **TRAVIS SCOTT** AND **CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (18-3-0) NCA 08-190, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN WITH FINANCIAL EXPENSES DUE TO HARDSHIP SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON** ($1,767.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **ADAM JONES III, SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN** AND **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

REPRESENTATIVES **CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-1-0) NCA 08-193, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE SALEM/RYAL ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM TO CONTINUE FUNDING FOR THE COOK POSITION SPONSOR: **SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN** ($15,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **SHIRLENE ADE**.

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) NCA 08-194, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OFFICE OF PUBLIC GAMING SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS** ($1,364,353.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (19-4-0) NCA 08-195, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) YOUTH CITIZEN TO ATTEND THE 56TH INAUGURATION OF THE PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES SPONSOR: **THOMAS YAHOLA** ($1,456.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DAVID HILL, LARRY CAHWEE, ROGER BARNETT** AND **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) NCA 08-196, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ENACTING AN OIL AND GAS SEVERANCE TAX CODE AND CODIFYING SAID LAW IN TITLE 36, "TAXATION AND REVENUE," OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CODE ANNOTATED SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) NCA 08-197, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A DONATION TO THE 24 MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CHARTERED COMMUNTIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENHANCING AND ENRICHING THE 2008 CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES FOR CITIZENS SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **P. BEAVER; S. ADE; K. MEDINA ($48,000.00)**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) NCA 08-198, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A DONATION TO MUSCOGEE (CREEK) INDIAN CHURCHES TO ASSIST WITH PROVIDING CHRISTMAS TO CREEK FAMILIES SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS**; CO-SPONSOR: **P. BEAVER; S. ADE; K. MEDINA; J. GREENE** ($30,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) NCA 08-199, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A DONATION TO 16 MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CEREMONIAL GROUNDS TO ASSIST WITH PROVIDING CHRISTMAS TO CREEK FAMILIES SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS**; CO-SPONSOR: **P. BEAVER; D. HILL; S. ADE; K. MEDINA** ($4,800.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-1) NCA 08-200, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM TOBACCO PREVENTION PROGRAM TO EXPEND A GRANT RECEIVED FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC) SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**; CO-SPONSOR: **KARA MEDINA** ($150,000.00)

ABSTAINING WAS REPRESENTATIVE **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) NCA 08-201, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A LEGAL CONSULTANT CONTRACT TO FACILITATE THE EXECUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION FEDERAL CHARTER APPROVED BY TR 08-097 AND PROVIDING AN APPROPRIATION FOR LEGAL EXPENSES SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE** ($20,000.00)

• MOTION MADE TO RECONSIDER TR 08-125 (14-8-0) APPROVED TO RECONSIDER.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (14-8-0) TR 08-125, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE TO NEGOTIATE A DEFINITIVE ENGAGEMENT WITH CERTAIN BANKS FOR THE PERMANENT FINANCING OF THE RIVER SPIRIT CASINO SPONSOR: **STEVE BRUNER**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DAVID HILL, ROGER BARNETT, EDDIE LAGRONE, LENA WIND, BILL FIFE, CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS, RON CLEGHORN** AND **KARA MEDINA**.

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Remembering Wilbur Chebon Gouge as former District Rep. and Muscogee (Creek) National Council Speaker of the House

by Rita Williams
Legislative Liaison/Writer

OKMULGEE – Wilbur Chebon Gouge served as former McIntosh District Representative for five terms. During his tenure as an elected official he would serve in many leadership roles.

1994-1995 – (first term in office) Served as Second Speaker of the house

1996-1997 – Speaker of the House

1998-1999 – Chairman of the Human Development Committee

2000-2001- Speaker of the House

2002-2003- Speaker of the House,

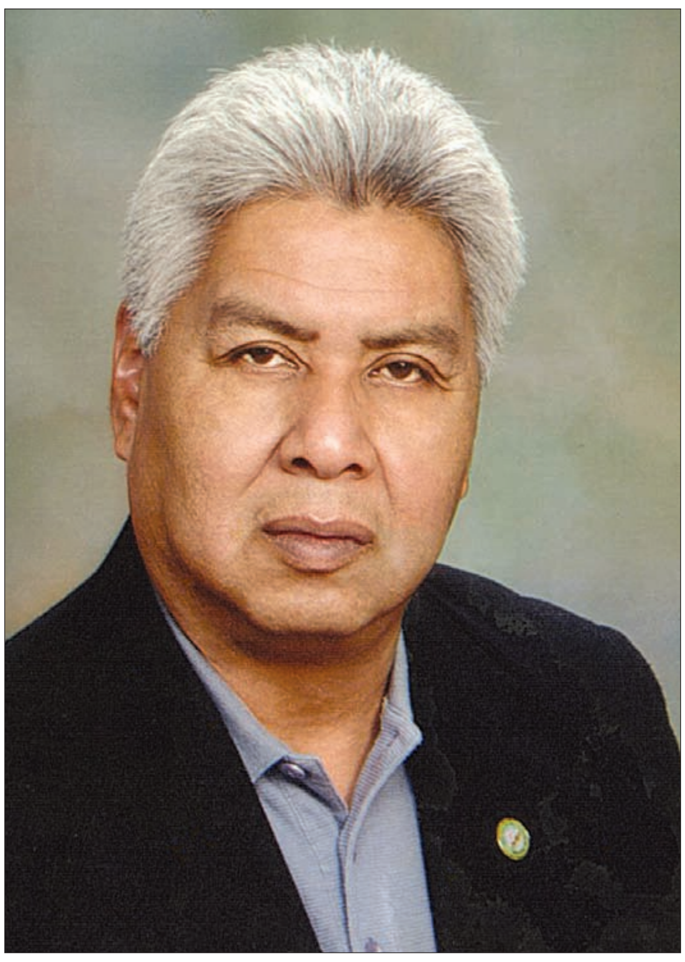
While serving in the capacity as former Speaker of the House, Chebon's day-to-day task was to have oversight of the duties of the National Council office and staff. among his duties he included consult with program managers, directors, tribal leaders and other dignitaries on the local, state and national level.

During his term, he would meet many people, make life-time friendships and leave his imprint on the heart of Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the people who loved him.

Chebon Gouge was introduced to tribal government at an early age through his parents, Albert and Sallie Gouge and their involvement with the Four Mother Society. They lived, believed in, and lead by example, in the old customs of our Muscogee (Creek) people.

His brother and sisters remember when they were young going to many meetings with their parents and all those involved who labored under the Charter of the Muscogee Creek Indian Rights Association to assure that funding for the health, safety and welfare of our children would be given under treaty rights for ceding of home lands.

Charter members pushed for sovereignty rights of Creek people, made trips to Washington D.C., and met with heads of the Department of Interior. Among those who made trips to Washington, D.C., were Albert Gouge, Archie Sams, Roley Haynes, and Samuel Jackson, Yoman Davis was Chairperson.



The women also labored along side these men and cooked and held fundraisers. Trips were made possible by donations. Also involved in this political process were Gilbert Lasley, Martin Mitchell, William Billy, Phillip Deere and their attorney at the time, Ross Swimmer, Sr.

Years ago, I had the privilege of interviewing Chebon in his family home located in Hanna, Oklahoma. He touched briefly on the Four Mothers Society and their workings. As I talked with him in his family kitchen, I saw that he was a common, but unique man, who loved the simple things of life. Material belongings meant nothing to him, only the richness of whom the Creator made him to be, a Muscogee (Creek) man.

Chebon loved to share stories and tell the origins of the Muscogee (Creek) People. His message was strong in the belief that you should always remember where your people came from and who you are. He emphasized that parents, (if they know) should teach their children at an early age to know these values so they can establish their identity and when they become of age they would not be lost to the world, trying to find who they are and wanting to belong.

Soon after this interview he would embark on his own journey into tribal government and become elected as one of the McIntosh District Representatives.

He would become one of the first Speakers of the House to be fluent in the Muscogee (Creek) language.

While he was Speaker, his staff and National Council Secretary, Terry Fish recalls his ability to quote by heart a piece of legislation by the number, title, article and section. "He was always encouraging us to read everything and took pride in the office of the National Council."

According to his wife Cheryl he was always behind some legislation or studying tribal laws. Tribal government was always on his mind.

Many honors would be bestowed upon Wilbur Chebon Gouge. He was founding Member of the Challenge Bowl Committee, Founding Member and Chairman of the Muscogee Language Program Committee, Traditional Advisor of the MCN Scholarship Pageant Committee, Traditional Consultant to Tobacco Prevention, 2008 Living Legend Award Recipient . He was instrumental in bringing the NAHASDA Act to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in 1996.

In October 2007 he was diagnosed with cancer. He and his wife Cheryl, son Sarge and two grandsons, Little Boy and Big Boy would face many challenges in their household, but he would always say to Cheryl, "Be strong, you have to be strong with me." During his first diagnosis he told Cheryl to tell the people, "Don't be sad for me, just be strong with me."

It was during his illness that he wanted to share some of his experience about this disease that is beginning to become so prevalent among our native people. He wanted to talk about prevention and education and how chemotherapy affects the person, mentally and physically. He expressed the need for a culturally sensitive support system that would help Indian families learn about their loved ones afflictions, how to cope on a day to day basis and become knowledgeable about the medications their families are taking.

We started our interview while he was in the hospital in early November, but it was never completed.

As I recall our first interview in his home in Hanna, he was in his late thirties. He was 57 when he passed away at his home in Eufaula with his wife, son, family and friends at his side. He lived his life exactly as he believed. Having experienced the struggles, sacrifices and victories of life that made him the strong and honorable person he was. He never displayed the give up mentality, no matter what the opposition was. Even in death, he stood his ground, wanting everyone around him to stand strong with him. History tells us the Muscogee people were fierce and mighty warriors. Chebon was a warrior and warriors fight to the bitter end.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has been blessed to count him as one of our leaders and honored to call him our friend. His service to the nation in helping people understand our government and culture is far greater than any monetary riches that may be bestowed upon our tribe.

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Tulsa Casino update

Photograph submitted

RIVER SPIRIT Casino

GAMES ARRIVE AT THE SPIRIT

On-site owner representative, Jerry Lawson described the location as "busy as a beehive." As opening day approaches, many finishing touches have been added to the casino. The "moving-in," process is under way. Gaming equipment and machines are being placed. Beginning with the north side and working south, various equipment will be put in place.

The fiber optics have been completed throughout the building and work has begun on the parking garage. The garage located on the north side of the casino is being excavated which entails removal of unsuitable foundation materials and the replacement of more substantial materials. With a bustle of activity, the casino is projected to be open for business around the beginning of March.

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

U.S. Senate Committee on Finance announces pension protection and tax help for families and businesses

Media Release
U.S. Senate Committee on Finance

WASHINGTON, D.C., – Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.) and ranking member Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) were joined on Nov. 19 by Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee Chairman Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Ranking Member Mike Enzi (R-Wyo.) in announcing legislation to help ease the financial strain on American families and businesses due to the lagging economy. The package includes important modifications to pension distribution requirements for seniors and businesses, as well as provisions included in the Pension Protection Technical Correction Act of 2008, originally passed by the Senate in Dec. 2007 and the House in March and July of this year. The bipartisan package also extends for one year business tax relief that was included in the first economic stimulus package, and allows companies to write off a greater percentage of their investments in business assets to free up cash for payroll and other expenses.

"Americans need real help from Congress to make sure their retirement savings are safe and sound and available to them when they need it. The provisions we're offering here today are a viable effort to move the economy toward recovery," said Baucus. "We've included measures to make pension plan requirements as friendly as they can be for seniors and employers so that they avoid a tax hit that wouldn't otherwise burden them under normal market conditions. And we're making it possible for struggling businesses to keep their houses in order by allowing them a greater return on what they invest in theiroperations. "

"This bill contains important stopgap measures to help protect pension holders given the great anxiety many face right now because of the economic downturn. It also contains tax relief measures to help employers weather the storm and continue to meet obligations to employees. These are common sense measures to help get through a difficult environment," Grassley said.

Kennedy said, "This bipartisan package addresses immediate pension needs arising from the financial crisis. It's an important first step, but there is much more to be done to protect families' retirement security. In these hard economic times, Americans have much to be concerned about, but they shouldn't have to lie awake at night worrying whether their hard-earned pensions will survive. I look forward to working with my colleagues to do all we can to see that employees' pensions stay safe and sound."

Business tax incentives and pension provisions in the package include:

- A provision for companies to claim as an expense a greater portion of their property cost, as well as increase the total dollar amount of allowable asset depreciation for a period of one year.
- A measure to provide relief for seniors age 70 and 1/2 or older who are required to take distributions from their retirement plans. This allows savings to stay put and avoid a tax hit when the market is down.
- A provision allowing single-employer pension plans to account for expected and unexpected earnings in addition to contributions and distributions when determining the value of the plan's assets. In addition, for those plans that fall below the set target funding percentage for a particular year (e.g., 92 percent in 2008), these plans will only be required to fund up to the specified funding percentage for that year, instead of 100 percent.
- Other pension provisions address difficulties faced by multi-employer pension plans by allowing a freeze of their current funding status so that funds that have dropped in value due to the decline in the stock market can avoid being classified as "endangered" or "critical." For those multi-employer plans that have established a funding improvement or rehabilitation plan for 2008 and 2009, the funding improvement and rehabilitation period would be extended from ten years to thirteen years.
- A measure to allow pension plans, for purposes of applying certain restrictions on benefit accruals, to use their 2008 funding status in 2009.
- A Tribal pension provision would eliminate the distinction between different types of employees within Indian tribal government pension plans so that tribal plans receive the same tax treatment as state and local government plans.

Worker, Retiree, and Employer Recovery Act Business Stimulus Provisions:

- Extend bonus depreciation for one year by allowing a taxpayer to depreciate 50 percent of the cost of an asset in the year in which the asset was acquired (2009). This proposal is estimated to cost $7.8 billion over ten years.
- Extend elective expensing (section 179) by one year, allowing small businesses to elect, in lieu of depreciation, to deduct up to $250,000 for property acquired and placed into service in 2009. This proposal is estimated to cost $64 million over ten years.

Pension Recovery Provisions:

This bill also contains a number of additional provisions designed to provide relief to individuals, pension plans, and businesses affected by the recent financial crisis.

- Place a one year moratorium on required minimum distributions from individual retirement accounts for 2009. This proposal is effective for 2009. This proposal is estimated to cost $3.6 billion over ten years.
- The funding target under the Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA) is phased in over three years. For those plans that fall below the set target funding percentage for a particular year, these plans will be required to fund up to the specified funding percentage for that year, instead of 100 percent. This provision is effective as if included in the Pension Protection Act. The proposal is estimated to raise $43 million over ten years.
- For plan years starting between Oct. 1, 2008 and Oct. 1, 2009, multi-employer plans may elect to freeze their current funding certification based on the previous year's level. This proposal is estimated to raise $10 million over ten years.
- Three year extension of the current funding improvement or rehabilitation period for multi-employer plans, from 10 to 13 years. This proposal is estimated to raise $52 million over ten years.

Tribal Pensions:

- For purposes of the Internal Revenue Code and ERISA, a governmental plan is defined as including a plan established or maintained for its employees by an Indian tribal government, subdivision or agency of an Indian tribal government, or an entity established under Federal, State or tribal law which is wholly owned or controlled by an Indian tribal government, subdivision, or agency of an Indian tribal government.

This provision is estimated to cost $1 million over ten years.

Native Business Network gets in the holiday spirit

by Cathy Wilkins
Native Business Network

TULSA – Native and non-Native businesses from all over Tulsa, Okla. gathered at the "Spirit of Giving" December Native Business Network meeting. The NBN hosted some of the children from the Oaks Indian Mission in Oaks, Okla. Businesses and individuals brought gifts for the mission's children.

Children received more than 60 gifts and gave a performance for those attending the meeting. Anyone interested in donating to the Oaks Indian Mission may visit their Web site at http://www.oaksindianmission.org.

Those interested in the NBN can join the group every second Wednesday of each month from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., for networking and learning from informative speakers.

If interested, e-mail nativebusiness@sbcglobal.net or call (918) 299-2778. Meal cost for members with RSVP is $15, members without RSVP $20 and non-member meals cost $25.

Photograph courtesy of NBN
Children from the Oaks Indian Mission received gifts from participants at the December luncheon hosted the Native Business Network. The next luncheon will be in January 14, 2009. Kristi Coker will be the guest speaker for the event.

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Skin Deep - *Inside Out*

by Selina Jayne-Dornan
Licensed Esthetician

EUFAULA — Over the years, the aesthetic industry has grown and matured far beyond what anyone might have believed. So many new topical ingredients have been introduced that are biotechnology derived, as well as the renewed uses of botanicals as high-tech ingredients, that sometimes we neglect the fact that the skin is a major eliminative organ - we focus on what we can put on the skin without delving into how we can help it work better from the inside. Some of the ways in which we may affect the skin from the inside include the intake of supplements and a well-balanced diet to ensure optimal tissue support, sufficient water intake to maintain hydration, as well as other alternatives including various detoxification methods to help the skin function properly.

Jayne-Dornan

H2O. So important, but so often very much taken for granted, water is the most under-utilized, healthy skin product on the market. We wash with water, it works with cleansers to remove excessive oils and daily grime from the skin, but drinking water is essential to life itself, involved in many bodily functions, including circulation, digestion, absorption, and excretion. Metabolic wastes are eliminated efficiently with sufficient water intake and nutrients are carried into cells by water, while also assisting proper cellular functioning. Water also helps maintain appropriate muscle tone, helps reduce the chance for kidney stones, and ensures proper lubrication of the joints.

Drinking water, however, doesn't necessarily prevent dry skin, unless someone is extremely dehydrated, as moisture levels in the skin are more likely determined by the use of appropriate cleansers, environmental exposure, the quantity, and functioning of sebaceous glands. The use of humectants, helps to hold water in the skin even drawing the moisture from the air to the skin (but this does not necessarily work during low-humidity periods, such as summertime in the Southwest). That being said, water does help to flush internal toxins from the body, and that can help prevent those toxins from building up and making their escape through the pores, possibly avoiding some acneic breakouts.

Your intake of water is not necessarily restricted to that clear stuff in your glass. Fruits, vegetables, and other water-containing foods also contribute to your daily intake. Melons, citrus fruits, milk, and juice all can contribute to your water intake; while alcoholic drinks (more than one at a time) and coffee or tea can cause dehydration. Coffee and tea can be deceptive - you think that because it contains water, it should count for just as much as plain water, but caffinated drinks can cause significant dehydration due to excessive urination - so be careful and try to limit your intake of these beverages.

Strenuous exercise, sweating, or fever require additional intake of water - if you are thirsty, your body is telling you it needs additional water; better yet, before any heavy exercise, drink some water to help prevent any dehydration. Keeping your body in top shape requires proper hydration levels to help eliminate toxins, otherwise muscular cramping may cause problems.

Excessive water intake could be an issue for some with health conditions so always check with your physician before proceeding with any change in your water intake.

Detoxification. There are many ways that we know of to "detox" the body. Topically, a dry brush exfoliation might be performed on a regular basis before a morning shower. In dry brushing the skin, the simple act of the movement of the brush against the skin creates lymphatic stimulation, and also helps the blood circulation - but it should be done with a soft, natural bristle brush. This is also offered as a stand alone treatment or with a body scrub or wrap from your skin care professional.

In the alternative medicine world, good skin is a reflection of a good digestive system, and when you refer to detoxification of the body, you are referring to cleansing the entire alimentary canal. So systemically, detoxification can take the course of high levels of vitamin C intake to flush the colon, including specific supplement or beverages to do the same, as well as colon therapy. What?! "Colon hydrotherapy is considered to be a safe, effective method of removing waste from the large intestine, without the use of drugs." This process has been advocated for centuries as a method to detoxify and cleanse the body of unwanted waste. The theory behind this is the belief that skin conditions such as rosacea, acne, and eczema or psoriasis frequently encounter problems with constipation or other digestive conditions, resulting in toxic waste remaining in the body for too long and thus affecting the skin. For those who don't necessarily wish to undertake colon hydrotherapy, the two things that most people can do to relieve the problem is to increase water intake and include more fiber in their diet.

Many people do not realize that excess sugar in the diet can cause problems, including possibly the main reason for the appearance of premature aging in the skin. The more sugar we intake, the more sugar we have entering our bloodstream. Not only does this over-tax the pancreas, but over time, this can result in a process known as the advanced glycation pathway, which is a condition in which sugar irreversibly attaches to and forms within long-lived proteins such as collagen fibers and accumulate with age - similar to barnacles. The name for these barnacles is "Advanced Glycation End" (AGE) products, and are responsible for the destructive cross linking of the skin's structural proteins as we age. AGEs damage collagen in skin, cartilage, and ligaments and promote a loss of elasticity, resulting in wrinkles forming and skin sagging. Reducing your sugar intake can be done by simply cutting back little by little - instead of going "cold turkey" and shocking your system.

Supplements. We all acknowledge that avoiding excessive UV exposure and eating a healthy diet can result in the appearance of healthy skin as well as a healthy body. Our topical utilization of vitamins and other types of supplements in the last decade is extrapolated from the years of research devoted to the systemic use of these vitamins, minerals, and other supplements that have proven effective with their beneficial antioxidant and protective properties.

For instance, taken internally, vitamin A helps keep the skin smooth and moist, while topically, it enhances cellular turnover; topically , the vitamin B complex provides diverse functions, including environmental protection and sebaceous regulation, and systemically it helps improve the skin's ability to uptake oxygen, tolerate UV exposure, and maintain the supplements of the skin. Vitamin C, of course, is not produced by the human body, so we must get it from our diet, supplements, and topical products. Systemically, vitamin C is important for the production of collagen and other tissue synthesis, and topically it is said to help with an even skin tone and acts as an anti-inflammatory. Vitamin E in collaboration with Beta-Carotene can provide protection from free radical damage, and it has been implied by scientists to protect the skin from environmental pollutants and sunlight through its antioxidant capacities.

Essential fatty acids (EFAs) are, simply put, the good fats our bodies cannot live without. EFAs are required to create cell membranes and hormones, and are believed to help keep the heart healthy, act as anti-inflammatories, and may prevent cancer. EFAs are also particularly important to people with inflammatory conditions such as eczema and acne, as well as for people with dry skin. People with EFA deficiencies may notice red bumps on the backs of their arms that are called Keratitis Pilaris. Additional intake of EFAs, regular gentle exfoliation, and application of topical hydration that includes EFAs can help alleviate these problems.

There are many ways in which skin care professionals and/or physicians can help clients obtain the best results possible for their skin. Continued education with research and reading is what I share with you. Reading articles or books on the subject of detoxification, vitamin supplements, water therapy, and exercise for health to educate yourself further is my recommendation to you. All in all, working from the inside out will help create an ideal approach to healthy living and healthy beautiful skin.

Selina Jayne-Dornan is a former Hollywood Make-up Artist and the owner of Merle Norman Cosmetics and Elegance Spa. Resources: Root, L./Dermascope, 2008.

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Miami
918-542-1786
quapawcounselingservices.com

Let's P.L.A.Y. - Physical and Lifelong Activity for Youth workshop

Photograph courtesy of MCN Exercise Program
Pictured above is Diabetes Program Exercise Coordinator Scott Robison teaching participants fun ways to stay healthy.

by Scott Robison, BS Ed, CIPTr
Exercise Programs Coordinator

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Program has invested in the local school physical education programs over the past four years through different school-based diabetes prevention programs. Each year we sponsor a workshop inviting others to join our passion for quality physical education in all the schools throughout the Muscogee (Creek) Nation area.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Program held their annual "Let's P.L.A.Y." (Physical and Lifelong Activity for Youth) workshop for local PE teachers and Health agencies on Dec. 11 and 12 at the Okmulgee Co. YMCA. This year's first day presenter was Scott Robison.

Robinson is a former PE teacher from North Carolina and has been the Exercise Programs Coordinator for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Program for the past six years.

Robinson presented many different games, dance, and strategies he uses to get kids moving in the Diabetes Program's various youth prevention programs. The second day presenter was Melanie Champion, who is a middle school PE teacher from South Brunswick Middle School in North Carolina. She is a Physical Education consultant for SPORTIME and the National Middle School PE Teacher of the Year in 2001. Champion presented her everyday activities and strategies for working with today's youth in the PE classroom.

The workshop had an average of 25 participants each day with many of the participants attending both days. Some of the agencies attending included Coweta Schools, Jones Academy, Mason School, Wilson School, Haskell University, Okmulgee Co., Seminole Nation Tribal Youth Wellness, Creek Nation Youth Wellness, Mounds School, OSU Extension, Graham School, Hanna School, Dustin School, Ryal School, Allen-Bowden School, Choctaw Nation Diabetes Programs, Potawatomi Nation, Otoe Tribe, the Pawnee Service Unit, and Butner School.

The workshop was well evaluated by all attending. We would like to thank the Okmulgee Co. YMCA and their director Micah Zink for hosting the workshop and the National Council for their continued funding of our effort to provide Diabetes Prevention programs and activities to our schools and communities.

Keep your financial picture pretty: invest in your health

by Dan Cross
Native Health Systems

TULSA — And you thought 2008 was a bad year for you! Well, look at the guys who really had it "rough," the billionaires losing billions:

1. Anil Ambani lost 92 percent of his net worth!! March net worth: $42 billion. Current net worth: $12 billion.

2. Oleg Deripaska lost 64 percent. March net worth: $28 billion. Current net worth: less than $10 billion.

3. Anurag Dikshit lost 63 percent. March net worth: $1.6 billion. Current net worth: $1 billion.

4. Bjorgflur Gudmundsson lost 100 percent. March net worth: $1.1 billion. Current net worth: zero.

5. Luis Portillo lost 99 percent. March net worth: $1.2 billion. Current net worth: $15 million.

Feel better now? Probably not. As a social services agency you are facing cutbacks because of the economy along with the increasing demands that hard times bring for our services. The end of 2008 brings us toward what could be seen as a bleak 2009.

While billionaires have lost billions, we cannot afford to lose a much more valuable asset, the people whom we serve. These are the times where heroes emerge with another perspective. Tom Brokaw wrote a book, The Greatest Generation, about a generation who faced the Great Depression and then World War II upon its heels. So resolute were they in these challenges that, coming out of the War, the 50s was one of the most prosperous periods of our times and America became a super-power both politically and economically.

To be sure, these hard times required much hard work and sacrifice, but there was a determination that we WILL make it through this and, when they did, the other side was a much better future than any had ever imagined. We have to work harder, work smarter, and above all, not lose our resolve.

You have read my previous article concerning the emerging painkiller addiction crisis that is about to hit us. One way that we can work smarter is by referring such addicts to specialized Opioid Treatment Programs and, in many cases, skipping inpatient detox. While our programs treat all chemical dependency, in all adults, we specialize in opioid and methamphetamine addiction treatment. If you would like to schedule an in service at your facility, please contact me.

Have a blessed 2009! And, by all means, keep your resolve to make it so. Native Health Systems offers three locations serving Native and Non-Native People. For more information on outpatient substance abuse treatment specializing in opioid methamphetamine care, visit www.myspace.com/nhsoklahoma or send an e-mail to dcross@cox.net. You can also call the centers directly at (918) 542-1786 for the Miami, Okla., location, (405) 672-303 for Oklahoma City or the Keetoowah Cherokee Treatment Services in Tulsa at (918) 835-3017.

Remember the Crystal Darkness campaign on Jan.13. For more information, visit www.crystaldarknessoklahoma.org.

PROGRAMS/NOTICES

Contact Election Board to update mailing addresses

Media Release
Election Board

OKMULGEE — The following Muscogee (Creek) Nation voters need to contact the Election Board to up-date their address. The Election Board cannot change your address without your consent. If any of the citizens listed are deceased, a family member needs to contact our office so the deceased may be removed from our list. If you do not contact the Election Board office you will be placed on an invalid list and will have to re-register in order to vote. Contact the Election Board at (918) 732-7631, 732-7684 or 1-800-482-1979. Fax number is (918) 756-2637.

Webster, Robin G.
Weder, Ora May
Wehunt, Patrick W.
Welch, Patrick L.
Welchel, Kami L.
Wells Jr., Watie T.
Wells, Josephine
Wells, Rosezena J.
Wesley, Leo Charles
Wesley, Richard V.
Wesley, Roley J.
West(Gray)Mesulta
West(Watson)Iris R.
West, Blaine N.
West, Cheryl Ann
West, Erceil Ellen
West, Russell E.
Westbrook, Sallie L.
Westbrook, Stephen
Wheatley, Maxine
Wheeler, Kevin Earl
Wheeler, Michael Ray
Whitaker, Mary E.
White, Fay Ann
White, Hubert Lee
White, Janet Lee
White, Randall D.
Whitehorn, Steven
Whitfield, Gladys
Whitman, Richard Ray
Whitson, Jeffery N.
Wilbanks Jr., Chester
Wiley(Boone)Ladossa
Wiley, David Harmon
Wilkinson, Patsy
Williams(Kaul)Vicky
Williams(Voice)Sherry
Williams, Cara D.
Williams, David I.
Williams, Dee L.
Williams, Jeremy P.
Williams, Jeryl Ray
Williams, Jualyne
Williams, Karen Sue
Williams, Ramona M.
Willians, Willella
Willis, Cherly D.
Wills, Susan Elaine
Wilmott, Robert N.
Wilmott, Theron N.
Wilson II, Otis Allen
Wilson, Allison A
Wilson, Barry L.
Wilson, Fredericka
Wilson, Marsha L.
Wilson, Nora E.
Wilson, Simon Leroy
Wind, Thomas Kirk
Windell, Linda A.
Windes, John S.
Windsor, Judy Marie
Wingate, Phyllis Lynn
Winters, Michael L.
Wisdon, Russell M
Wisner, Johnnie Lee
Withers Jr., Frank W.
Withers, Barbara Ann
Withers, Oliver Lee
Withers, Travis Wayne
Witt, Deanna Lynn
Witty, Dale Ralph
Wolf, Ina Louise
Wolf, Wanda Faye
Wolf, Warren Glenn
Wood, Judy Florence
Wood, Steve M.
Woodfield, Samuel
Woodson, Sandra K.
Woody, Ronnie W.
Woody, Rose F.
Wooten, Dennis K.
Wooten, Donald J.
Workizer, Patsy P.
Workman, Ollie Mae
Worth, Johnathen C.
Worthington, Patti M.
Wright, Cleo M.
Wright, Howard
Wright, Mark R.
Wright, Michael Dotson
Wright, Teddy Lee
Wright, Thelma L.
Yahola, Benjamin
Yahola, Charles R.
Yahola, Daniel A.
Yahola, Jonas Ray
Yahola, Lisa Ann
Yahola, Robert W.
Yahola, Virginia S.
Yarbrough, Linda Fay
Yardy, Thomas Lewis
Yargee, Amon Eugene
Yargee, Tony Ray
Yeatman, Darla A.
Yeatman, John R.
Yingling, Iva L.
York, Billy Jack
York, Robyn J.
Young Robbie Lee
Young(Polk),Ruth
Young, Amy Michelle
Young, Curtis W.
Young, Cynthia Jo
Young, David Gene
Young, Stephen W.
Young, Velma Jane
Young, William B.
Zech, Rita Ann
Zermeno, Gwendolyn
Ziegler, Frances L.
Zielke, Roberta S.

U.S. Census Bureau recruiting census takers for Native communities

Media Release
MCN Community Research and Development

OKMULGEE — The U.S. Census Bureau will be testing for employment at Okemah and Okmulgee Indian Communities throughout the month of Jan.

Testing for Okemah will be held Tues., Jan. 13 at 9 a.m., and again at 1 p.m. The Okmulgee Indian Community will hold the training on Wed., Jan. 7 at 1 p.m.

Census employees may earn competitive weekly pay, training, a flexible work schedule and reimbursement for authorized mileage and travel-related expenses.

Applicants should bring a form of identification such as a driver's license, school I.D., voter registration card, passport, social security card or Native American enrollment card to the testing site. Other communities involved are Holdenville, Tulsa and Eufuala.

Areas of skill to be tested include clerical abilities, reading comprehension, number skills, interpretation of information and evaluation of alternatives along with organizational skills.

Help your community have a successful 2010 Census. For more information, please call 1-866-861-2010 or visit the Web site at www.census.gov/kansascity. Informational brochures are also available in the Community Research and Development office on the main campus of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Social Services offers winter energy assistance

by Susan Arkeketa
Indian Youth and Family Alliance

OKMULGEE — The Social Services Department offers two programs in the winter for heating assistance. New participants may apply beginning January 12, 2009. We will continue to take applications through March 31, 2009, or until the funds are exhausted.

LIHEAP (Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program) is available for low-income families residing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation service boundaries. Tribal Energy is available for elders (55 and older) or those receiving disability benefits through the Social Security Administration.

To apply for services, please choose one of the following options:

Applicants may choose to apply:

1) IN PERSON - No appointment is necessary and clients will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis. Office hours are 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. We are now located at 2971 N. Wood Drive, just north of Housing.

2) BY MAIL – Please mail all documents to: MCN Social Services, Attn: LIHEAP or Tribal Energy, PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

3) BY FAX – Please fax all documents to 918-759-9988 and include a cover sheet addressed to LIHEAP or Tribal Energy.

4) IN YOUR COMMUNITY – Please bring all your documents to the field site. A Social Services Caseworker is available every month in chartered communities between 9:30 and 11a.m., on specified days (see field schedule below for specific days).

Those who wish to apply should provide:

1) Tribal cards and Social Security cards for everyone in the household

2) Gas bill OR Propane vendor OR Wood vendor (Electric bill only if you are total electric. You may be asked to verify this.)

3) Copies of all income sources

4) Phone number (in case we need to contact you)

5) Authorization for Social Services to sign the application (if mailing or faxing)

6) Non-Duplication statement: Statement detailing any assistance received in the past 12 months from any federal, state, tribe, community, and/or church agency or the like with utilities, and/or deposits.

7) Additional documentation may be required

Applicants should keep paying their bill until they receive an approval letter. Please allow at least 45 days for processing.

Please contact Social Services at 918-759-2334 if you need additional information. The toll-free number is 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7995.

MCN Social Services and Food Distribution Field Schedule

Coweta	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	2nd Tuesday of the Month
Glenpool	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	2nd Wednesday of the Month
Bristow	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	2nd Thursday of the Month
Eufaula	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	3rd Tuesday of the Month
Sapulpa	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	3rd Wednesday of the Month
Checotah	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	3rd Thursday of the Month
Weleetka	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	4th Tuesday of the Month
Okemah	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	4th Wednesday of the Month
Holdenville	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	4th Thursday of the Month

Rayon retires after 27 years with MCN

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Manager of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Food Distribution Linday Rayon, pictured here with Principal Chief A.D. Ellis celebrated her retirement after 27 years with the tribe where she recently served as the manger of Food Distribution.

Holdenville CDC celebrates the Christmas season

Photo courtesy of Holdenville CDC

Santa Claus took time out of his delivery schedule to stop by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Child Development Center in Holdenville for their 50s-themed Christmas program on Dec. 17. A total of 24 parents and grandparents were able to attend and watch the gift-exchange where each child was given fruit and candies for the holiday.

California Muscogee (Creek) Association celebrates Christmas

Media Release
California Muscogee (Creek) Association

BREA, Calif., — The California Muscogee (Creek) Association held its annual Christmas party on Sat., Dec. 13, 2008 at the beautiful home of John and Mary Windes in the city of Brea, Calif.

Seventy-five Creek tribal members attended the affair. Some of the guests included Monty Deer, retired Topeka, Kan., judge and former attorney general with the MCN and his wife, Jan, their daughter, Sara Deer, who is a visiting professor at the Mitchell College of Law in St. Paul, Minn., Mary Harjo from Oklahoma City, Wanda and Bill Morison from Santa Fe, NM.

Some of the CMCA families were the Taylor family, the Montana family, the Escobar family, Ron Sparks, Len Pyatt, the Brand family, the Stuckert family, the Mitchell family, Richard Procello, the Carvajal family and the Windes extensive family. Ken Taylor led us in prayer before the food was served.

Dinner included turkey, fried chicken, roast beef with carrots and potatoes, string beans, sofkey, green salad, potato salad, cranberry salad, rolls and all the trimmings. Dessert included pies, cakes and cookies.

One of the highlights of the affair occurred when George and Ken handed out gifts to all 41 Creek kids who attended. Eli Grayson surprised the children with a special gift to each child. They were all excited and joyful while receiving their presents. Teresa (Windes) Jarnutowski organized and coordinated an arts and crafts project with the children.

John and Mary were exceptional hosts. Their spacious and beautiful home easily accommodated the party. John displayed his daughter's cookie jar collection in a Christmas setting and pridefully showed off his family portrait, which included seven children with spouses and fifteen grandchildren.

The Christmas party continued a yearly tradition of the California Muscogee (Creek) Association getting together for fellowship and to recognize our precious children at this time of the year. The CMCA wishes every Muscogee citizen a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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Native scholarship opportunities

Media Releases
Native Education Coordinator

Keepers of the Fire Scholarship

The "Keepers of the Fire Scholarship" is an annual scholarship program that awards 3 $500.00 scholarships to American Indian (Indigenous) students attending a college or university in the United States or Canada. The scholarships are given in honor of my parents, Philip L. and Esther J. Niles. My father, Philip Niles, was an enrolled tribal member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma (descended from the Fox family clan) and dedicated his professional life to helping many American Indian tribes throughout the United States through his employment with the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

My father was very proud of his ancestors and heritage. Even though he is now deceased, being an enrolled member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma myself (traditional name of Wakshe – "Red Fox"), it is my way of supporting the education and capacity-building of the American Indian (Indigenous) student population.

The three Keepers of the Fire Scholarships will be given to American Indian (Indigenous) students who are accepted into or registered at a college or university (preferably studying Social Work or American Indian Studies).

The scholarship is a one-time award of $500.00. The recipients and non-awardees are encouraged to reapply in the following year (fall 2010).

The nominees must be an enrolled tribal member of any American Indian (Indigenous) tribe or community in the United States or Canada.

Preference will be given to those who are returning to their tribe following their college graduation.

Please submit the following by August 31, 2009 (late or emailed applications will not be reviewed):

Letter of interest, name, contact information, college major, academic level (Freshman, Sophomore, Graduate Student, etc.), and plans following graduation from college to:

Dr. Michael Niles (Wakshe), Office of American Indian Projects, 411 North Central Avenue #880M, Phoenix, AZ 85004 ATTN: Edbesendowen Scholarship Selection Committee or Email: Michael.Niles@asu.edu.

The finalists for the scholarship will be interviewed and awardees notified by September 10, 2009. The scholarships will be given out at an informal ceremony at the School of Social Work – Office of American Indian Projects. Details of the ceremony will be provided at a later date.

Edbesendowen Scholarship

Edbesendowen is a Potawatomi word that means "Humility." The spirit of this scholarship is the recognition of the importance of being humble and knowing that we are no more than the next. Our presence on Mother Earth is a gift. We are not more than the trees or the oceans. We are equal to all things that we share our planet with. We are not more than those who struggle or have no home. Those that have taught me this important concept are remembered through this award.

Scholarship Requirements

The scholarship will be given to an American Indian (Indigenous) student who are accepted into or registered at a college or university (preferably studying Social Work or American Indian Studies).

The scholarship is a 1-time award of $300.00. The recipient and non-awardees are encouraged to re-apply in the following year (fall 2010).

The nominees must be an enrolled tribal member of any American Indian (Indigenous) tribe or community in the United States, Canada, or elsewhere.

Preference will be given to those who are returning to their tribe following their college graduation.

Please submit the following by August 31, 2009 (late or emailed applications will not be reviewed):

1. Letter explaining what humility means to you, your name, contact information, college major, academic level (Freshman, Sophomore, Graduate Student, etc.), and plans following graduation from college to:

Dr. Michael Niles (Wakshe), Office of American Indian Projects, 11 North Central Avenue #880M, Phoenix, AZ 85004 ATTN: Edbesendowen Scholarship Selection Committee or Email: Michael.Niles@asu.edu.

The winner of the Edbesendowen scholarship will be notified by Sept. 10, 2009. The scholarship will be given out at an informal ceremony at the School of Social Work – Office of American Indian Projects. Details of the ceremony will be provided at a later date.

**Applicants may apply for both scholarships, however, separate letters of application are required.

Harvard tuition scholarships

Harvard University announced that from now on undergraduate students from low-income families will pay no tuition. In making the announcement, Harvard's president Lawrence H. Summers said, "When only ten percent of the students in elite higher education come from families in the lower half of the income distribution, we are not doing enough. We are not doing enough in bringing elite higher education to the lower half of the income distribution."

If you know of a family earning less than $60,000 a year with an honor student graduating from high school soon, Harvard University wants to pay the tuition. The prestigious university recently announced that from now on undergraduate students from low-income families can go to Harvard for free… no tuition and no student loans!

To find out more about Harvard offering free tuition for families making less than $60,000 a year, visit Harvard's financial aid Web site at: http://www.fao.fas.harvard.edu/.

2009 The John Sky Scholarship

The Indigenous Early Intervention Alliance (IEIA) provides an educational scholarship in the name of John Sky to help a Bad River tribal member attend the college or technical school of their choice.

John Sky was a full-blooded Chippewa Native American who lived on the Bad River Reservation.

Scholarship Requirements

The John Sky Scholarship will be given to a person who is accepted into or registered in a University of Wisconsin systems college or technical college and is working toward a college diploma or certificate. The scholarship is a one-time award of $750. The nominee must be a Bad River Tribal member and preferably residing on the reservation at the time of application. The recipient and non-awardees are encouraged to reapply in the following year (fall 2010).

Please submit the following by Aug. 31, 2009 (late or emailed applications will not be reviewed):

Letter of application, your name, contact information, college major, academic level (freshman, sophomore, graduate student, etc.), and plans following graduation from college to:

Dr. Michael Niles (Wakshe), Office of American Indian Projects, 411 North Central Avenue #880M, Phoenix, AZ 85004, ATTN: John Sky Scholarship Selection Committee or Email: Michael.Niles@asu.edu. The winner of the John Sky scholarship will be notified by Sept. 10, 2009. The scholarship will be given out at an informal ceremony at the School of Social Work – Office of American Indian Projects. Details of the ceremony will be provided at a later date. **APPLICANTSMAY APPLY FOR ALL IEIA SCHOLARSHIPS** (Use Google to find http://indigenous-early-intervention.com/ for more information)

SEPARATE LETTERS OF APPLICATION ARE REQUIRED

IYFA and OU host Native Youth Summit and Rock and Jam Day

by Susan Arkeketa
Indian Youth and Family Alliance

NORMAN — Indian youth activities and demonstrations are being planned now for the Indian Youth and Family Summit scheduled for March 25 and 26, 2009 at the OCCE Forum on the University of Oklahoma campus.

On March 25, 2009 the whole day will be devoted to youth empowerment through workshops and speakers focused on youth and family issues. Youth councils, counselors, parents, program administrators, educators, and students are encouraged to present workshops or information on their own programs that empower youth and families.

The Summit is hosted by the Indian Youth and Family Alliance and the University of Oklahoma Native American Studies Department. The Indian Youth and Family Alliance is composed of individuals and organizations who work to promote and support Native youth and families in healthy peer, family, community and tribal relations.

The summit is hosted by the University of Oklahoma Native American Studies Department and the Indian Youth and Family Alliance. The Indian Youth and Family Alliance is composed of individuals and organizations who want to make a difference in American Indian communities.

Objectives: The objectives of the Indian Youth and Family Summit are many and include the following:

- To promote and preserve cultural, language and tradition.
- To help develop youth leadership skills and abilities.
- To promote healthy lifestyles for families and youth.
- To promote and strengthen Indian families and resources.
- To promote and strengthen tribal government leadership.

Workshop Topics: The workshop topics are not limited and each workshop presenter must provide for their own expenses for the workshop. Workshop topics suggested include, but are not limited to: youth development and leadership, culture and language, health and mental health issues, college preparation and financing; art and media projects, grandparent and parent resources and support, juvenile justice and courts, volunteerism, federal Indian law, tribal government, alcohol and substance abuse prevention, alternative education programs, etc.

Workshop Topic and Demonstration Requirements are as follows:

1. Submit the following attached form with the information required.
2. Workshop should provide a hands-on approach with the participants and keep participants actively involved in the learning process.
3. Workshop and Demonstrations are limited to 50 minutes.
4. Presenters must provide all materials for the workshop.

Planning committee members include: Susan Arkeketa, Jerry Bread, Veronica Pipestem, Cherrah Quiett, Dana Tiger.

Anyone who wants to volunteer with the Summit is more than welcome and if you are interested in joining the planning committee or want to present a workshop, please email Susan Arkeketa for workshop information at sarkeketa@cs.com.

Okemah Community sponsors financial aid workshop

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKEMAH — College can be a scary undertaking for high school juniors and seniors but when they figure out how they can pay for all the books, bedding and tuition, it makes both the students and parents feel a little more at ease about taking their first steps into the 'real world.'

There is a plethora of information on financial aid out there, however sorting through the mess can be quite a hassle and many questions arise throughout the process. In order to address this issue before it comes down to the graduation in May, the Okemah Indian Community in conjunction with Okemah High School hosted a financial aid workshop where both students and parents found out where to get the information they need including FAFSA forms and scholarships available for minority and Native American students.

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Pictured above are parents of Okemah High School students in attendance at the financial aid workshop sponsored by the Okemah Indian Community.

For Merry Sunday, helping students with financial aid can be a full-time job, literally. Sunday currently serves as the Director for the RSC Talent Search Program at Rose State College and was the keynote speaker for the workshop where she gave students useful scholarship tips and information about applying for federal, state and tribal grants.

According to Sunday, the first step students must take is to fill out their FAFSA information so the government may determine what kind of aid will be available to them based upon income.

Class

Continued from A1

This class is a collaboration between the Creek Council House Museum, Emory University and the IT department of OSU-Okmulgee. Craig Womack, Creek citizen and former professor at the University of Oklahoma, will teach the class. He is now a professor in the English department at Emory University in Atlanta.

Womack has taught classes on Creek Literature while at OU, but this represents his first class on Creek writings from the homelands. This brings out the intriguing and monumental aspect of this class, that of our homelands once again playing host to the culture and language that is indigenous to the area, the Mvskokvlke. This class can also be the bridge between the two areas of Creek people, those who were left behind and those who were forced to leave. The class is part of newly formed efforts to re-discover aboriginal inhabitants and civilizations.

The class will be giving some basic language instruction to help discuss some of the various language and cultural aspects of various authors. Topics covered will include the Earnest Gouge stories, GW Grayson and the Fus Fixico letters by Alex Posey. In March, the various migration legends and some discussion on various church writings will be reviewed. Betty Mae Jumper and short writings from other authors along with the differences between the oral tradition and the written form will also be discussed. Storytelling, oratory, religious and songs are some of the other forms which will be looked at.

Once again, the schedule for this Spring semester will be from 12 noon until 1:05 p.m.., on Tues. and Thurs., beginning Jan. 15. We will be meeting in room 226 of the Reynolds Technology building on the Okmulgee campus.

There will be no cost to attend, but please come prepared to discuss the topic at hand according, to the syllabus schedule. For a copy of the syllabus, please contact Ted Isham at the Creek Council House Museum at (918) 756-2324 or by e-mail at curator@sbcglobal.net.

FAFSA worksheets now available online

by Cindy Forbes Cameron
U.S. Department of Education

WASHINGTON, D.C., — The FAFSA on the Web Worksheet is now online in PDF at www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov/worksheet - students may use it to jot down their answers before going online (on Jan. 1 or later) to fill in the online application.

The FAFSA on the Web demo site is also ready. The site helps you increase your own understanding of FAFSA on the Web and show it to students and parents before they apply. At the site, you can complete a sample FAFSA, make corrections, or check the status of the application. However, when you choose "submit," the information is not actually submitted. The site is purely a learning tool. To access the demo site, go to http://fafsademo.test.ed.gov. The user name is eddemo, and the password is fafsatest. The site displays both the English and Spanish versions of FAFSA on the Web.

Also, the final PDF of the 2009-10 Counselors and Mentors Handbook has been posted to our counselors Web site at www.fsa4counselors.ed.gov (the link to the handbook is on the home page, under the heading "Counselor Resources").

Phoenix from ashes success story

SPOTLIGHT - B5

Littlebear named 2008 All-American

SPORTS - B7

FEATURES

Giving the gift of sharing

• Reintegration helps Creek families during Christmas

Photo courtesy of Tony Fish

Pictured above is Santa Claus along with a recipient of the Christmas gifts given by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration program to children of incarcerated or recently incarcerated families this holiday season.

CELEBRATE THE SEASON

The award-winning Reintegration Program took donations of toys throughout the winter months for their first annual toy and stocking-stuffer drive which began earlier this year.

The donated items were given to children of incarcerated Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens before Christmas where the kids were also able to visit Santa and have their picture taken.

For more information on the toy drive or the Reintegration Program, please contact program Juvenile Specialist, Richard Hicks Jr., at (918) 652-2676 or at (918) 652-2677.

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Native author visits MCN library

• McIntosh pens latest novel on Creek history

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — Billie Jane McIntosh visited several locations in Indian Country including the library at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation complex while promoting the release of her latest book entitled, “From Georgia Tragedy to Oklahoma Frontier: A Biography of Scots Creek Indian Chief Chilly McIntosh.”

McIntosh is a Muscogee (Creek) who currently resides in Flagstaff, Ariz. She was born in Okmulgee and went on to earn a bachelor’s degree in editorial journalism from the University of Tulsa. She also attended the University of Arizona. As a young mother, McIntosh had thirst for writing but she put that aside while she raised her four children and later went back to quench her literary palette.

It was the novel “Ah-Ko-Kee, American Sovereign,” that she branded for the library. Among her other visits was the Checotah Indian Community Center where she was scheduled to give a lecture. Checotah had the privilege of getting their hands on some of the first copies of the book for which she spent hours of research to complete.

“I began thinking about writing when I was 22, after I married and began asking questions [about her heritage],” explained McIntosh.

A compulsion to give back to the tribe, its people and her own children helped drive McIntosh through the obstacles of tiring research and exhausting travel. McIntosh related a hope that people today can take away from her books, an understanding of how much tribal leaders have contributed to the present world we all enjoy. She also agreed that the writing of these books was somewhat of a therapeutic process for her. After growing up in a time when it was less than desirable to be of native decent, McIntosh found comfort in exploring her heritage and sharing it with others.

Her latest publication is based on the life of her great-great grandfather, Chilly McIntosh. It has been called “expertly woven” in reviews. This book, rich in the history of the McIntosh’s ancestors and the creek people, follows Chilly McIntosh through the different roles he filled while defining a young Muscogee (Creek) Nation and laying foundations for what the tribe is today.

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Pictured above is author Billie Jane McIntosh who recently visited the Muscogee (Creek) Nation complex to promote the release of her latest title, “From Georgia Tragedy to Oklahoma Frontier: A Biography of Scots Creek Indian Chilly McIntosh.”

MNN to raise prices beginning Jan. 2009

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — Due to increased printing and postage costs, the price of the Muscogee Nation News will increase from $12.00 to $24.00 for a bi-monthly, 12-month subscription for non-Creek citizens. As always, there will be no charge for tribal citizens.

The change will take effect beginning Jan. 1, 2009. We thank you for your readership and hope you will continue to look to the MNN for news happening in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Mvskoke Honor Guard seeks a few good men

by Efv Haco
Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard

OKMULGEE — You may have seen us marching in a parade, posting the colors at tribal events or functions, or in schools on Veteran’s Day talking about things like duty, service and honor. Honoring our Mvskoke veterans, remembering all veterans, and the sacrifices they made leaving their families and loved ones behind to answer the call of duty to our country and nation is part of what we’re about.

Everyone who took the oath and swore to defend our country, *with their life*, whether it be in peacetime or war, deserves full, military honors at their passing and that’s what we believe, is our primary function and why we were organized.

SEE HONOR - B8

> *“Everyone who took the oath and swore to defend our country, with their life, whether it be in peacetime or war, deserves full, military honors at their passing”*
> **- Efv Harjo**
> *Mvskoke Honor Guard*

Call to Creek and Native artists for arts and crafts

by Brian On-The-Hill
MCN Tourism and Recreation

OKMULGEE—Tourism & Recreation would like to extend an invitation to all artists in the chartered Creek communities to participate in the 2009 Creek Festival in order to bring more integrity and authenticity to the arts and crafts at the Festival.

If you or someone you know is an artist or craftsman, please consider purchasing a 15’x20’ booth space at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival in June 2009. All registered Creek citizens may rent a 15’x20’ booth space for $60, upon proof of citizenship. All other Native Americans (non-Creek citizens) will be charged $80 (must present valid CDIB card), Non-Natives will pay $125 and a $150 fee will be charged for commercial vendors.

For more information, contact Brian On-The-Hill at (918) 732-7993 by early Jan. 2009 to be put on the mailing list to receive booth applications which will be mailed later in Feb. 2009. The deadline for submission of applications will be 5 p.m., on Mon., March 30, 2009.

HISTORY/CULTURE B2
Language program update: Audio clips soon available on language Web site

RELIGION B3
OIMC Joins Oklahoma campaign to fight meth

LIFESTYLES B4
Skylar Roulston

SPOTLIGHT B5
Creek citizen patents golf product

OBITUARIES B6
Mable McNac

JUMPS B8
Wind Warrior looking for a new costume for 2009

History Series: The historic and contemporary relationship of Assilanapi (Green Leaf) Tribal Town

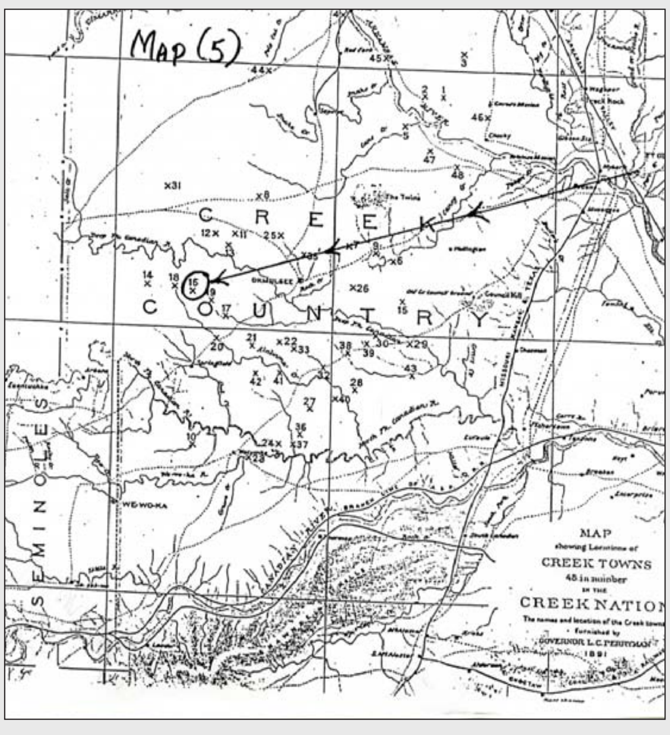
by Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Cultural Preservation

OKFUSKEE COUNTY - The Assilanapi (Greenleaf) Tribal town was a member of the Upper Creek Division of the Muscogee Confederacy. This is taken from the map, "Creek Nation – Upper and Lower Creeks." Here, "Oakchoys" (Okchai) is located as Upper Creek. Assilanapi, being a branch or daughter town is by tradition and association an Upper town of the Creek Confederacy. See map (1-A). *His Majesty, Upper and Lower Creeks. Town and Villages of the Creek confederacy in the 18th and 19th centuries* by Albert S. Gatschet's report of the Alabama History Commission, P. 387.

This report locates the Greenleaf Tribal town in the State of Alabama west of the Coosa River where the Talladega Creek joins the Coosa River. Assilanapi was founded in their location somewhere before 1792. It appears that Greenleaf branched from Okchai later that did Fish Pond. *J.R. Swanton, Indians of Southeastern United States, Bureau of American Enthnology,* Bulletin 137, p. 167. See map (1-B).

Assilanapi (Greenleaf) was a subdivision or daughter town of the principal Town of Okchai. The Greenleaf of Okchai, like the Okchai, spoke the Muscogee tongue and was on the white side of the confederacy. Williams Bartram's list of Maskoki Town, from his "Travels". pp. 462-64, Philadelphia, 1791.

The previous treaties that affected the movements of other Tribal Towns did not affect the movement Greenleaf Tribal Town. The Treaty of 1832 prompted Greenleaf's removal as it did all other tribal towns.


Map (5)
CREEK COUNTRY
SEMINOLES
WE-WO-KA
MAP showing Locations of CREEK TOWNS 48 in number in the CREEK NATION
The names and location of the Creek towns furnished by GOVERNOR L.C. PERRYMAN 1891

Arrows indicate approximate locations of current day Assilanapi (Green Leaf) Map (5), *Perryman's.*

As a result of this treaty, the Greenleaf Tribal Town is enumerated in the Census of 1832-33. Census Document 512, Emigration of Indians Commissary General of Subsistence Vol. IV. Early history of the Creek Indians and their neighbors, Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin 73, J.R. Swanton, p276.

The removal of Assilanapi included other Tribal Towns which were Fish Pond, Kialegee and Hillabee. This party made up one of five main removal groups in 1835-36. This group was organized by Opothleyahola. After nearly a year's delay, they finally began the removal journey on Dec. 6, 1835. Another organizer was Benjamin Marshall, a half-breed who was a member of the Sanford Emigrating Co. This party embarked from a marshaling point on the Tallapoosa River near Wetumpka, Ala. Grant Foreman, Indian removal, the Emigration of the civilized tribes of Indians, chap. 11, p. 142. See map (2).

Greenleaf's removal route was partially over land and by river. A Lieutenant Edward Deas was militarily in charge of this party. They traveled overland from Wetumpka, Ala., to Memphis, Tenn. From Memphis on the Mississippi River, they traveled by boat to the Arkansas River, up to Little Rock, Ark. From Little Rock, they party proceeded to Ft. Gibson, I.T., where they arrived Feb. 2, 1836. *Grant Foreman, Indian Removal, the Emigration of the Five Civilized Tribes of Indians*, Chap. 11, p. 143. See route Map (2) Grant Foreman.

It is at this point that the writer of the report comments that Okchai most probably assumed its traditional role over its daughter Towns and took Assilanapi and Rvrokvlka under its wing until their further settlement in Indian Territory. According to the information provided by Swanton, Okchai serves as the initial settlement of Greenleaf and Fish Pond. On map (4) of Creek Nation, it appears that the division of Assilanapi appears on this first map in the vicinity of Okemah.

In order to present a logical picture of the movement of Greenleaf in Indian Territory this report focuses here on its mother town of Okchai. According to the information provided by Swanton, Okchai serves as initial settlement of Greenleaf which remained in the same vicinity. *Trans. St. Louis Academy of Science, Gatschet* – Kas. Leg. – Appendix II, p.216 Map(5).

Greenleaf (Assilanapi) remains an active Ceremonial Tribal Town, west of Okemah, Oklahoma in Okfuskee County.

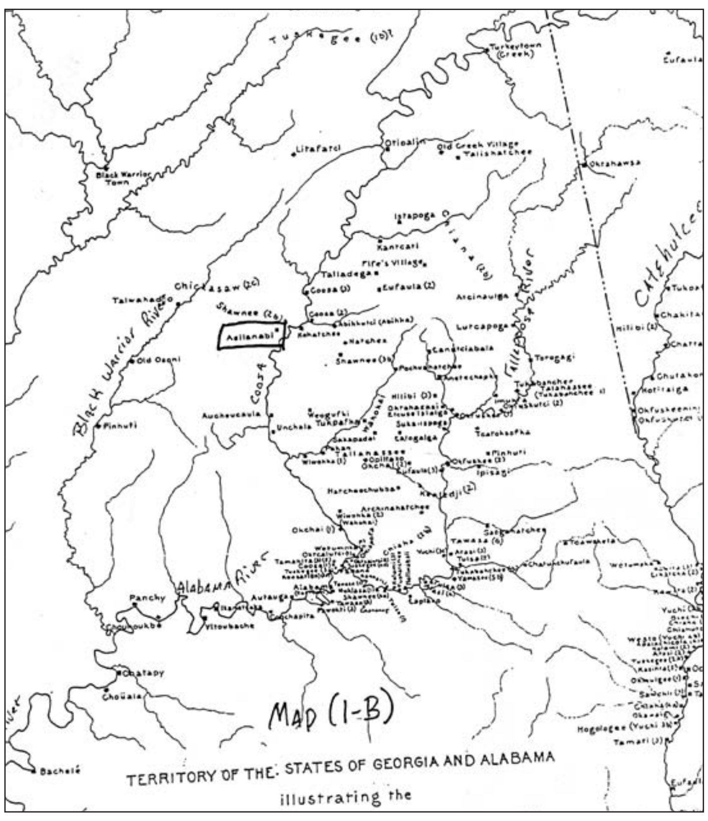
Preliminary sketch of Assilanapi (Green Leaf) Tribal Town

by Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Cultural Preservation

OKFUSKEE COUNTY - This report will reflect much of the same information found on Rvrokvlka as Okchai figures prominent as the mother town of Greenleaf and Fish Pond.

Swanton refers to the Greenleaf Tribal Town as being another branch of Okcahi known as Assilanapi. Assilanapi was founded some time before 1792 as historic record reflects.

The findings of the report on Assilianapi (Green Leaf) have concentrated on the mother town of Okchai being that recorded information focuses on the tribal town more than its branches of daughter towns. Since both Greenleaf and Fish Pond are in direct relationship to Okchai, the record of this report on Okchai is also written on the preliminary sketch on the Fish Pond Tribal Town.



On a very early map that was drafted by the English, there are only locations for "Oakchoys" (Okchai) and "little Oakchoys" in the vicinity of forks of the Coosa and Tallapoosa rivers. As no dates are given on this map we can assume that possibly "little Oakchoys" were branches or daughters of the old Okchai. There is record by Swanton that states, "Assilanapi was founded later than the first Rvrokvlka was so named because it was first located in a place where Ilex Vomitoria was to be gathered."

Earlier maps do not record a location for the Greenleaf branch of Okchai. This is keeping with information given that Assilanapi was founded later then the first Rvrokvlka to confirm this, this report has referenced Swanton's map. "territory of the States of Georgia and Alabama Illustrating the Geographical Distribution and Movements of the Tribes and Towns of the Creek Confederacy numbers indicate successive positions of the tribes – compiled by J.R. Swanton, 1919." This map being quite large, has been copied by portions and marked or keyed. Portion map marked: Map (1-B) gives a hint as to movements of Okchai and indicates a separation of daughter towns.

Assilanapi may be figured in the Red Stick War since Fish Pond is named in history as having participated in that war. If needed, they were not involved, it may be for the reason that the location of Greenleaf was too far a distance from their sister and mother towns according to the map that is referenced in this report.

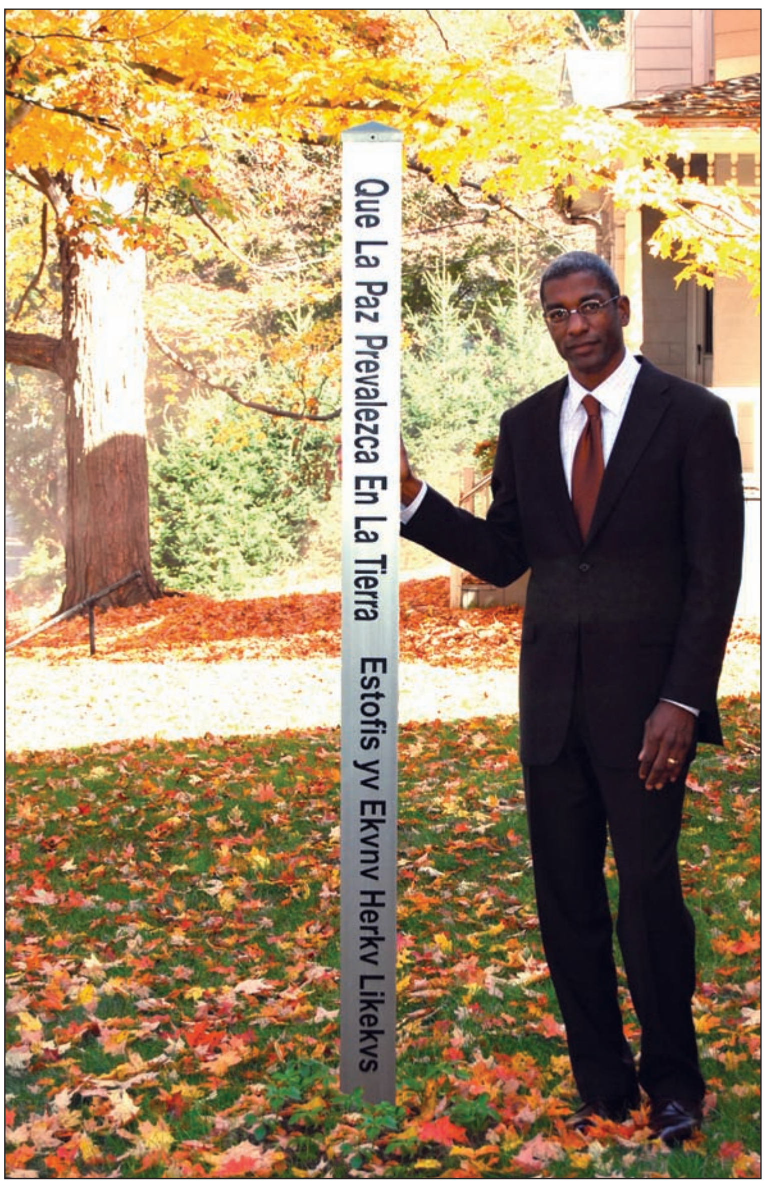
Historic record on Greenleaf is somewhat sparse and it is the writer's opinion that sources point to Okchai as being the prompting force for both Assilanapi and Fish Pond. Greenleaf begins to appear in historic record along with Okchai and Fish Pond. But the time of the census of 1832-33 they (Greenleaf) seems to have gained some notable status as they are enumerated in the Census. At the time of their removal they are specified as Assilanapi (Green Leaf).

After their arrival in Indian territory, Okchai takes its mother role over both Greenleaf and Fish Pond. Under leadership of Hotulke Emarthle of Okchai, Okchai is settled near what is ow Hanna, Okla. Again from Swanton's information. Okchai settles first. Yet maps place Greenleaf much farther west in the vicinity of Okemah, Okla and Fish Pond comes to the same vicinity later.

Greenleaf, as the story goes, has only moved only once and that's only a short distance still within the area of Okemah, Okla., were they are active today. The current Mekko is Bill Proctor of the Bear Clan.

LANGUAGE UPDATES

Audio clips soon available on language Web site


Que La Paz Prevalezca En La Tierra
Estofis yv Ekvnv Herkv Likekvs

by Kathleen Coachman
Language Program Manager

OKMULGEE - Hensci Readers! Each month the Language Program receives requests for language materials to teach oneself and requests for translations. We do provide the translations when requested but unfortunately we have been unable to fill those requests for language materials. With the new additions to our staff, we are working hard to soon have DVDs available and language audio clips to include in our Web page.

Requests come from all over the United States. One such request, received this summer, was to translate the phrase, "May Peace Prevail on Earth."

We received a letter this month from the organization that had requested the translation. The letter was from Pastor Paul Briggs, Antioch Baptist Church, from Bedford Hills, New York. Mr. Briggs explained that Sept. 21, 2008, marked the 114th anniversary of their church which was also the date of the International Day of Peace. In celebration, a peace pole was planted in the churchyard with the inscription, "Estofis yv Ekvnv Hethv Likekvs."

In the letter, Mr. Briggs stated, "Your assistance in translating into the Creek Language, 'May Peace Prevail On Earth' will always be remembered and appreciated. Because of your help, the Creek language is now a part of the data base of Peace Pole Makers, USA. We chose the Creek language to represent the longing for peace that many Native American peoples yet have. In addition, we chose Creek because we are a predominantly African American church and many run away slaves found acceptance among the Muskogee people... Thanks again for helping to make Sept. 21, 2008 a memorable day for the members of Antioch Baptist Church."

The Language Program is happy to assist in all the requests that we receive.

All November Activity entries we received were 100 percent correct. However, there can only be one winner. The winner of the November activity sheet is Tammy Lewis. Congratulations Tammy. Please contact the Language Program to claim your prize.

Happy Holidays from the Language Program.

MVSKOKE LANGUAGE ACTIVITY

Name:______________________________
Address:______________________________
____

BASIC CONVERSION;

Below is a list of conversation phrases: Write in the correct answer in the blank provided.

(A) Epokmerhoyen Orolope Mocvse hvtvm heces ce.
(B) Orolope Mocasat Afackoset omvks.
(C) Vn tat vnoketskvn este emocit vrettan cvyats tos yv orolope orat.
(D) Orolope mocasekv estowen vrakuecahanskv?
(E) Orolope Mocasat eyvcayecet omvkes.

1. How are you going to celebrate the New Year?________________

2. We are seeing a New Year with blessing.________________

3. I want to see the New Year with love toward everybody.____________

4. Be happy with the New Year.____________________

5. Let's be careful during the New Year.__________________

Complete and send to:
Mvskoke Language Program
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447

2008 in review from OIMC Conf. Superintendent

by Rev. David Wilson
OIMC Conference Superintendent

OKMULGEE — The district superintendents are close to completing their charge conferences; the OIMC office is preparing forms and information for 2009 and local churches across the conference are preparing for Christmas programs and New Year's watch night celebrations.

The 2008 year has been a year full of its challenges, accomplishments and losses for our conference. I want to recap a few of those accomplishments and challenges of the annual conference since I last reported at Annual Conference.

The new OIMC fellowships continue to do well. The Glenpool fellowship is currently meeting on Sunday nights, but will begin alternating Sundays in the month of January. Rev. Bernadine Dowdy is excited about the growth of the fellowship and the involvement of the people.

I was able to preach at the Southeast Regional conference revival and I saw a van-load of persons arrive from the Durant Indian Fellowship. As I talked with one of the members of the fellowship, she talked about the ministry they are providing to the Indian students at Southeastern State University.

Kahbeah Chapel on the Horton Indian reservation is near completion on their renovations. The church recently installed their heating and air unit and they are excited to be able to use the building in the winter, which is already present in Kansas. They hope to have their dedication in the spring. Bishop Hayes had a wonderful time at a revival with the young adults in the Northeast Region last Oct. I am so pleased to see young adults in the Northeast Region take the initiative to create a new organization and to assume leadership roles in the region.

I was at the new Clinton Indian Church and Community Site for their Fall Carnival. There were about 35 children present and many parents who also came. It was gratifying to see that parents and children felt comfortable with the ministry there and it raised many more possibilities for ministry at Clinton.

I also remember clergy and lay persons that we lost in 2008. I know you will join me in remembering the families of Rev. Harvey Williams, Rev. Ruth Jacob and Rev. Rachel Boyiddle. I miss their conversations, their passion for ministry and simply their presence.

I want to offer my appreciation to Josephine Deere and Linda Draper for all the work and ministry they do in the office. Our office is a small group and both of them go far beyond the call of duty to care for the needs of the annual conference.

Our two district superintendents, Margaret Battiest and Roger Scott have been active and present in their districts and are doing a great job. I have appreciated their ministry and for accepting the challenge that comes with the role of a Superintendent.

I certainly remain thankful for the leadership of Bishop Hayes. I am excited that he and Dee have been reassigned to the Oklahoma Area and he will continue to provide encouraging leadership.

I know that 2009 will be full of its own challenges and accomplishments. I also know that as we work together in this great conference, we are led by the One who inspires, prepares and equips us for ministry.

I close with the words from First Corinthians, 15:58. "Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, be immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."

FAITH-BASED NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Gospel singing

GLENPOOL—Concharty United Methodist Church in conjunction with Glenpool Fellowship host a gospel singing on the second Thursday of every month. For more information, please call (9180 366-8450.

Oklahoma City University offering free tuition for children of Methodist clergy

OKLAHOMA CITY - Bishop Robert E. Hayes Jr., of the Oklahoma Area of the United Methodist Church, and President Tom McDaniel announced today that Oklahoma City University will provide 100 percent of tuition costs for United Methodist Ministers and their families who are from the Oklahoma Annual Conference and the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference and under appointment by the bishop.

The tuition waiver will take effect for the fall 2009 semester and will be extended to the spouses and dependent children of ministers from these two conferences. Recipients must meet all OCU admission requirements. Those attending can choose from more than 65 undergraduate majors at Methodist-affiliated OCU, McDaniel said OCU, Oklahoma's United Methodist University, is always working to enhance students' access to quality education.

"OCU embraces the United Methodist tradition of scholarship and service and this is one way we can offer more students the opportunity to pursue a faith-based education that will prepare them for a lifetime of service," McDaniel said.

For more information, contact OCU's Department of Undergraduate Admissions at (405) 208-5050.

UMCORS's 100-ton challenge

UMCOR is challenging United Methodists to help farmers earn fair prices for their crops by participating in UMCOR's 100-Ton Challenge. The 12-month campaign encourages United Methodists to help increase the amount of fairly-traded coffee, tea, chocolate and snacks purchased through The UMCOR Coffee Project and its partner Equal Exchange, a 100 percent fair trade, worker-owned cooperative. Purchasing fairly-traded goods allows small scale farmers to earn fair prices, invest in farm improvements, reduce debt, and improve their communities while providing a better life for themselves and their families.

UMCOR's 100-Ton Challenge will begin on Sat., May 10 in observance of World Fair Trade Day and will end May 9, 2009. As you enjoy fairly traded coffee, tea or chocolate, you are part of a partnership that helps farmers stay on their land, care for the environment, support their families and plan for the future.

In 2007, United Methodists bought 68 tons (136,000 pounds) of fairly traded products through the UMCOR Coffee Project—100 tons would be a new record. With every pound of product sold through the UMCOR Coffee Project, 15 cents goes to support farmers through UMCOR's Sustainable Agricultural and Development Program. Through this program, farmers learn new methods of cultivating their crops that produce good yields and nutritious food. Farmers, who depend on fair trade for a living, are better able to support their families, live healthier lives, and send their children to school. Join the 100-Ton Challenge and commit to doing more to support fair trade practices.

Ways You Can Support Fair Trade:

- Serve Fairly Traded Coffee, Tea and hot Chocolate at church events and during fellowship hour or Bible study, and make it available to members for home use.
- Host a Coffee Tasting Event as an introduction to fair trade issues. Start with a small order of your favorite blend or flavors; brew your coffee and provide samples at your next church function. Download our UMCOR Coffee brochure, bulletin and order forms to have on-hand for distribution.
- Raise Funds with Fair Trade Chocolate by encouraging the youth in your congregation to begin promoting the sales of fairly-traded cocoa or chocolate as a fund raiser to support UMCOR's Hunger/Poverty Program, Advance #982920. Have samples on-hand for tasting. Distribute order forms and information about fair trade.

Share your stories with us on your fund raising events, successes, ideas and results. Also, send us photos of all your activities. You can submit stories and photos by e-mail to umcor@gbgm-umc.org, place "Coffee Challenge News" on the subject line of your e-mail.

OIMC Joins Oklahoma campaign to fight meth

Reprinted from the Advocate
Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference

OKLAHOMA CITY — All Oklahomans, including churches, schools, civic groups and law enforcement can have an active investment in this historic methamphetamine awareness project. Crystal Darkness Oklahoma, cochaired by Oklahoma First Lady Kim Henry, begins with the airing of the half-hour documentary on all Oklahoma television stations, as well as radio and internet media.

The documentary will feature testimonials graphically articulating the devastating impact meth has had on families and communities across the state. The air-date is tentatively set for Tues., Jan. 13, 2009.

Crystal Darkness is a gripping 30-minute documentary that confronts the truth about meth through first-hand accounts of former addicts and those whose lives will never be the same because of the drug. While the program is focused on their lives, the message is universal - any neighborhood in Oklahoma could be affected by meth.

The story is told through the powerful testimonies of people who have gone through the dark and lonely depths of meth addiction and its physically altering consequences. With heart wrenching and raw honesty, they speak with an unforgettable message of warning. Join them as they courageously share the unimaginable pain and despair caused by meth use and their struggles to choose a life without drugs.

In the meantime, ways to help with the project include organizing community watch parties, panel discussions and other events at your schools, churches and community centers the night of the televised Crystal Darkness Oklahoma documentary, as well as donating money and/or time to the project. If you are interested in helping in any way, you may go to http://crystaldarknessoklahoma.org/GetInvolved.aspx and fill out a contact form. One of the organizers will contact you with more information.

Oklahomans can also spread the word to school boards and administrators, civic clubs and churches, retail stores owners and managers within your community to report suspicious activities, or schedule free meth awareness educational/training programs in your town. For Oklahomans needing help, substance abuse assistance resources are also available at http://crystaldarknessoklahoma.org/resources.aspx.

Is there a Meth Lab Cookin' in Your Neighborhood? Many people may be unaware that they're livingnear a methamphetamine lab. Meth labs turn up in houses, barns, apartments, trailers, campers, cabins and motel rooms – even the backs of pickups. The equipment for a meth lab can be as small as to fit in a duffel bag, cardboard box or the trunk of a car. Here are some things to look for in identifying suspicious activity:

- Unusual, strong odors (like cat urine, ether, ammonia, acetone or other chemicals)
- Renters who pay their landlords in cash. (Most drug dealers' trade exclusively in cash.)
- Excessive trash including large amounts of items such as: antifreeze containers, lantern fuel cans, red chemically stained coffee filters, drain cleaner and duct tape or persons frequently driving away with household trash.
- Unusual amounts of clear glass containers being brought into the home.
- Windows blacked out or covered by aluminum foil, plywood, sheets, blankets, etc.
- Secretive/protective area surrounding the residence (like video cameras, alarm systems, guard dogs, reinforced doors, electrified fencing).
- Persons exiting the structure to smoke.
- Little traffic during the day, but high traffic at late hours; including different vehicles arriving and staying for short periods of time.

Crystal Darkness Involvement Opportunities for the Faith Community:

- Promote the Crystal Darkness Campaign to your faith community and peer leaders
- Provide training for lay people to be able to discern and respond to early symptoms of harmful behavior
- Recognize addiction as a family illness, responding to all those affected
- Honor people in recovery, valuing their spiritual journey as a congregational strength
- Link congregational help to prevention or treatment resources within the community and neighborhood
- Be a host site for the January documentary viewing.
- Provide counselors for Phase II
- Provide post event training
- Pray for hope and healing for our state.
- A training will be set up for those in our conference who would be willing to host or lead a watch party. Please contact Rev. David Wilson or Josephine Deere at the conference office if you or your organization are willing to be a leader or would be willing to host a watch party.

The Tulsa Creek Indian Community located at 8611 S. Union Ave in Tulsa, will be hosting a watch party and will facilitate a discussion afterwards. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call (918) 298-2426.

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Be counted - 2010 U.S. Census

Media Release
Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference

OKMULGEE — In 2010, the U.S. Census Bureau will define who we are as a nation with the decennial census population count. It is vital that the 2010 Census have an accurate count of our tribal nations and American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) communities. The U.S. Constitution requires a national census every 10 years. This includes citizens and non-citizens of all ages, tribes, races, and ethnic groups. Every year, more than $300 billion in federal and state funds are allocated to tribes and states and communities based on census data. That's more than $3 trillion over a 10-year period.

The 2010 Census will shape the future of your tribal community, define your voice in Congress and impact economic development and other opportunities for your tribal citizens.

Federal and state agencies depend on census data to determine funding allocations for tribal programs. Census data can assist tribal leaders in their planning decision about economic development projects and community service programs. Census data guide local decision makers in important community and tribal planning efforts, including decisions such as where to build child-care facilities, community centers, roads, and schools.

Tribal governments and planners rely on census data to determine where there is a need for social services. This simple, short questionnaire takes just a few minutes to complete and return by mail or to a census taker. In the past there have been challenges in obtaining a full accounting of the AIAN population on tribal lands so please do your part – it is in your hands!

LIFESTYLES

BIRTHDAYS

Miyana Kay Leybas

TULSA — Miyana Kay Leybas celebrated her first birthday on Sat., Sept. 27, 2008. Her birthday party was Sept. 26, 2007.

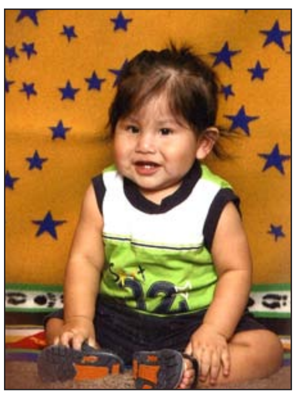
Celebrating with her was her big brother Asaiah Jon, her parents Asa and Meghan, her grandparents Rev. Johnny and Nakina Leybas and a host of cousins.

Her maternal grandparents and great-grandparents are Fred Bear and the late Rhonda K. Bear and Clifford and Bertie Bear. Her aunts are LaRhonda and Jamie Bear. Paternal great-grandparents are the late Ben and Lillian Leybas.

Her uncle is Erick Postoak.

Her paternal great grandparents are Alice Freeman and Winfred Taryole.

Theron Gale Chino, Jr.



Theron Gale Chino Jr. celebrated a birthday on Sept. 18 with a Winnie-the-Pooh and Friends themed party.

Theron is the son of Theron Sr. And Stacy (Harjo) Chino. His siblings are Alexandria and Destiny.

His grandparents are Henry Harjo Jr. of Tulsa and Sandra Harjo of Pawnee. Great grandparents are Henry Sr. and Judy (Wesley) Harjo of Wetumka and Philip and Louise Mathew (of Pawnee). He is of the Bird / Sun clan.

Baylee Marie Newman

Baylee Marie Newman is having a birthday on Jan. 25 with a Shine Shine party. Her parents are Anthony and Teri Newman, her siblings are A.J. And Daelyn, her grand mother is Reba Marks Newman, her great grandparents are Joseph and Rebecca Marks.

Gabriel Tarapalechee Long

Gabriel Tarapalechee Long turned 14 on Jan. 6. His parent is Taylor Long, siblings are Oskie and Osha and his grandparents are Harry and Mulsey Long.

He attends Cocopah School and is a son of the Beaver Clan. His Tribal Town is Tukvpvtce.

Mercedes Dunn

Mercedes Dunn turned five years old on Dec 21. Mercedes is the daughter of George and Lisa Dunn, and sister to Destiny and Giorgio Dunn.

Her maternal grandparents are John Tottress and Ivalene Tottress.

Paternal grandparents are George Sr. and Barbara Dunn. Maternal Great Grandparents are Charlie Holcomb and Eliza Sanders. She attends morris Pre-K and is of the Bear clan.

Nehemiah Simpson

Nehemiah Simpson turned two years old on Oct. 13. He had a Spiderman themed party.

His parents are Shawnavyn Joe and Isaac Simpson.

His sister is Gabriella Simpson.

Maternal grandparents are Annie and Charles Joe.

Paternal Grand mother is Mareella Owen and paternal step grandfather is David Owen.

Minah Birdcreek

On Dec. 14 Minah Birdcreek turned 17 years old. Minah is the daughter of JoAnn Birdcreek and is a sister to Paul, Elliott, and Bryan.

Her grandparents are Dora and Eugene Birdcreek and her great grandparent is the Late Mesala Birdcreek.

She attends Weleetka High School and is of the Alligator Clan and a member of the Alabama Tribal Town.

Tresa Ingram

OKMULGEE — Tresa Ingram celebrated her birthday on Jan. 11.

Parents are Lawrence Hank Ingram and Marjorie Ann Scott.

Siblings are Montie Scott, Gada Mappin and Johnny Ingram.

Maternal grandparents are Marie Highpine and Wilmont Scott.

Paternal grandparents are Nora Burgess and James Ingram.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Skylar Roulston

OXNARD, Cali., — Theda and Chris Pogue are stationed in Oxnard, Ca. serving in the Navy. Chris at this time is stationed in Iraq, with Theda being stationed in Oxnard, California as a Air Traffic Control Person. Theda is an enrolled tribal member of the Creek tribe. Being in the military and having a family is not easy, working all hours and every day states Theda. Theda and Chris are proud of their daughter, Skylar Roulston who is 11 yrs. old and in the 6th grade.

Skylar was recently presented the “Inspirational Award” for her class. She is in the 6th grade and attends school at Rio Del Valle, in Oxnard, Ca. She was given this award for being an inspiration to her classmates, encouraging them to participate more in class. This award was given to her by Mayor Tom Holden of Oxnard, Ca. the student is selected by the county and the El Rio school district. She also is a straight “A” student in her class, her class consist of 30 students or more.

Skylar is the granddaughter of enrolled tribal members: Joammie and Robert Wood of Spaulding, Okla., and the great granddaugther of the belated Rev. Alex and Joan Burgess, adopted belated grandfather, Tony Palmer of Wewoka.

Skylar has two siblings younger than she. She is a member of the Seminole Indian Baptist Church and is serving the Lord in California

Mahiya Ramirez

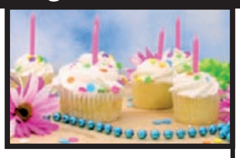
Mahiya Ramirez participated in the Union City Christian Academy musical drama “Fear Not Factor” on Dec. 17.

She along with her fellow classmates dressed as angels and sang “Fear Not” “Bring It On” and six other songs.

Sister Marie Turner was the musical director and the message of this musical drama is to teach children of all ages not to fear God because as long as he / she has God in their heart he will walk beside them.

Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:



Roll Number:________________

Phone Number: (___)___________

Name: ________________________________

Address:________________________________

Date of Birth: ____________________________

Theme of the party:________________________

Parents: ______________________________

Siblings: ______________________________

Maternal and Paternal grandparents:

____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:

____

School: ________________________________

Clan: __________________________________

Tribal Town:____________________________

Birth:

Roll Number:________________

Phone Number: (___)___________

Name: ________________________________

Address:________________________________

Date of Birth: ____________________________

Name of Hospital: _________________________

Weight: ______ pounds ______ ounces______inches

Parents: ______________________________

Siblings: ______________________________

Maternal and Paternal grandparents:

____

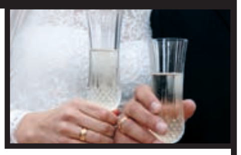
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:

____

Clan: __________________________________

Tribal Town:____________________________

Announcements:



Roll Number:________________

Phone Number: (___)___________

Name: ________________________________

Address:________________________________

Parents: ______________________________

Siblings: ______________________________

Maternal and Paternal grandparents:

____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:

____

Clan: __________________________________

Tribal Town:____________________________

Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

This morning when we left the house it was dark. We wound down the hill, Diamond Head direction to Hui Nalu Canoe Club at Maunalua Bay. I've been traveling far, nowhere near these warm seas. It was to be my first time paddling in months. We have a number of paddlers for a 7AM Sunday morning paddle, several canoes worth. I'm happy to be in Jeff's canoe. He's one of the best at riding currents. We go out past the blinker buoy where the water turns turquoise and clear. Beautiful. And because it's relatively flat we keep going straight out to the deep blue. Those waters are ultramarine. I keep a lookout for whales. They return every winter to these waters to give birth.

Then we turn toward Diamond Head and surf the blue. When we turn back, we race. This means picking up the time and intensity of the stroke, and focusing. Focusing means to put your intention straight ahead, so that your vision places your canoe ahead of the rest.

I am in seat two behind an inexperienced stroker. I notice that when we can hear the competition coming up alongside, she turns. When she turns her stroke deteriorates. When the stroke deteriorates, everyone else's stroke suffers, because we follow her lead. I also notice that when she looks anywhere besides directly ahead the canoe falters. I deliberate whether to say anything or not because I am not the steersman (the person in seat six, who directs the canoe). Then, because we're falling back, I do.

"Focus! Look straight ahead. Your eyes carry energy. You are the canoe's eyes."

It's almost magic the way the canoe responds.

And this becomes a lesson for me, something both the stroker and the spirit of the canoe is teaching me. Our attention literally goes in the direction we look or spend our time. It's important to know where we are going, to keep an intention and keep moving in that direction in mind and heart.

And finally, some New Year's resolutions from tribal members and others we care about from around Indian Country:

From Mvskoke Pastor, Rosemary McCombs Maxey:

"My breakable resolution is to not torture you, Craig, and Ted too much. My nobler one is to mentor and coach Creek youth in our language, history and culture, and to do a better job of recording life lessons I have learned from being a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation." And we'll look forward to hearing from you, Rosemary.

From Muscogee Nation Second Chief Alfred Berryhill:

"I resolve to do the unresolved." Okay, we'll hold you to that, Alfred.

From the Mvskoke writer Eddie Chuculate: "Write a novel. I bought a fresh journal today (Dec.20), so that's a start." We'll keep everyone informed of your progress, Eddie.

From the inimitable head of the California Muscogee Creek Association Eli Grayson: "My goal for the next year is to try not to throw my shoes at anyone who voted for George Bush." Everybody in Oklahoma, duck!

Tuscarora singer, songwriter Jennifer Kreisberg of Ulali: "As we make a fresh start this Solstice, I am releasing any past hurts done to me..." This is in the spirit of our traditional Mvskoke New Year, as I understand it.

And finally, from Cree singer, songwriter, Buffy Sainte-Marie:

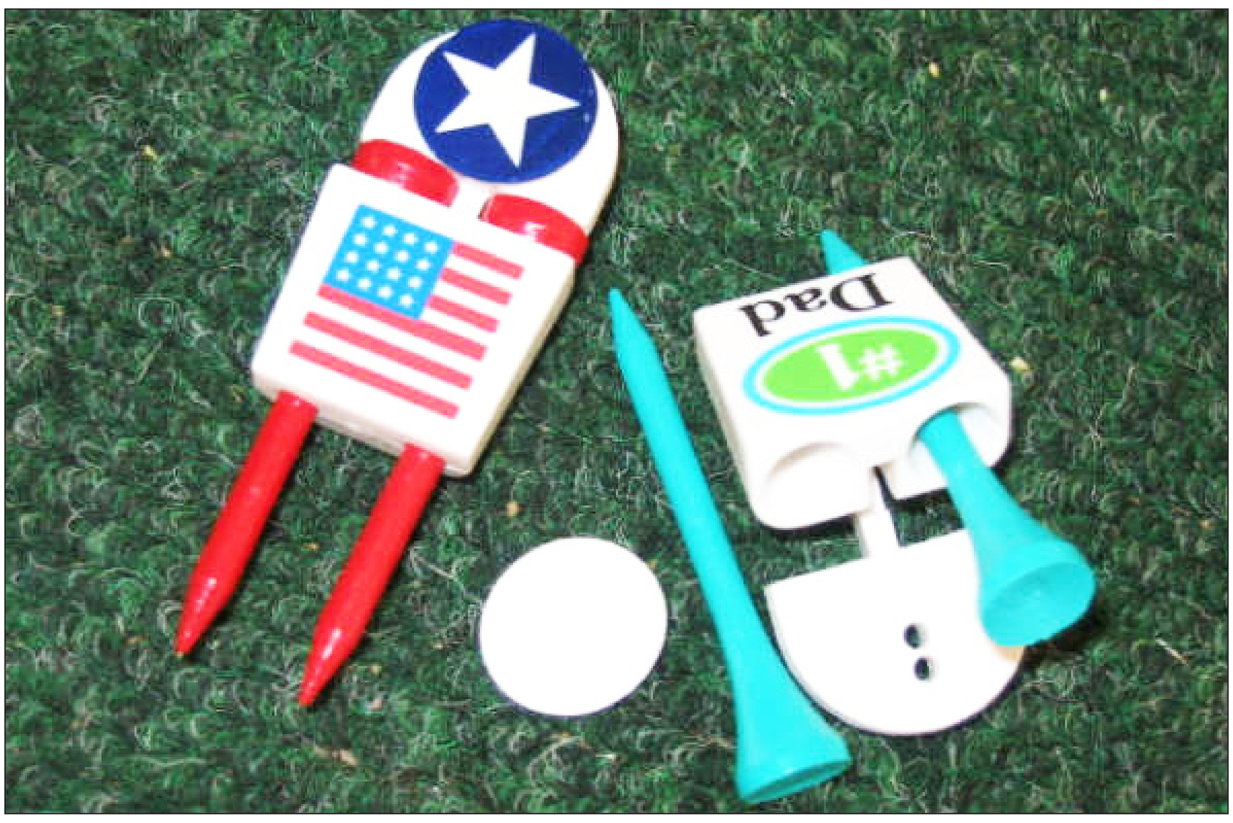
"In every dream I can smell the sweetgrass burning
and in my heart - Always hear the drum
and hear the singers soaring and see the Jingle Dancers
and still this love goes on and on
still this love goes on.

Let's honor our traditions." Thank you Buffy for the ongoing inspiration.

Mvto.

Creek citizen patents golf product

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer



Photograph submitted

Pictured above is the "Utillatee," which is a patented and trademarked invention to TeeMedia LLC, a California Corporation for which David Jacome, is a partner. Jacome is a Creek citizen living in Sun Lakes, Ariz. This device is a handy addition for golfers.

SUN LAKES, Ariz., — David Jacome, a Muscogee Creek, boasts an impressive resume. Recently he was able to add Inventor to his long list of talents. Graduate of the Oklahoma University Economic Development Institute, Jacome holds three patents related to promotional golf products and the development of trademark name "Utillatee." The patents and trademark are licensed to TeeMedia, LLC, a California Corporation for which he is a partner.

Jacome currently resides in Sun Lakes, Ariz. with his wife. In addition to cultivating his interests in golf and the marketing of his product he is the Economic Development Planner for the Gila River Indian Community. His work there requires his participation in the planning process for the development of tribal and non-tribal economic development projects to ensure that the development process is followed and that the projects produce adequate income to the community. He Assists tribal projects with the planning and design of incubator office space, creating four offices for the entrepreneurs to operate from there in Ariz.

His most recent work-related projects include an Arts & Crafts Building, a visual proposal which encompasses a 80-room hotel, grocery store, event center, bank, fire station, retail and office space, a 250- acre project on allotted land for a car auction lot and a 40 acre parcel on allotted land for RV and boat storage.

Despite a busy career in economic development and being active in his hobbies, Jacome has participated in various organizations over the years. He served as President of the of the American Indian Chamber of Commerce (Tucson Chapter) and was an appointed member representing the Sonoran Desert Arizona tribes to the Arizona Governor's Geotourism Committee. For the Tohono O'odham Nation and the Gila River Indian Community, Jacome served on the Arizona Governor's Action Committee. Jacome served as President for Barrio Viejo Neighborhood Association and Advisor and Chair person to the Boys & Girls Club of Tohono O' odham Nation. He was a volunteer planner for the Sonoita, Arizona Valley, Empire Ranch, Las Cienegas Conservation Area and President of the Casas Adobes Business Club. Jacome served as President of Eden Roc Gardens Neighborhood Association and Vice President of the Realtors Land Institute. He served as volunteer mentor for the University of Arizona – Native American Mentor Program as well as the Tohono O'odham Nation – Mentor Program. Jacome as been a member of the University of Arizona's Native American Mentor Program and the Tohono O'odham Nation Mentor Program. Jacome was the Operations Chairman of the Tucson Parks Foundation which hosted the LPGA Golf Tournament.

Jacome has donned many hats in his roles as economic developer, mentor to young native people, volunteer for community organizations and inventor but hidden below all those amazing attributes is a man who has also worn a glove. A baseball glove that is. In 1970 to 1972 Jacome played shortstop for the Cleveland Indians minor leagues in the cities of Tucson, Ariz., Sumter, S.C., Sarasota, Fla., and Reno, Nev.

Phoenix from ashes success story

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — After a trying battle with diabetes, Will Hill, nationally recognized Muscogee (Creek) citizen, performed at the Okmulgee High School Auditorium on Sat., Dec. 20, reprising the role he used to entertain audiences in 2006 and 2007. Fans of the playwright and the many other talented performers braved the cold to see "A Song of Winter."

The play, full of wit and talented performers, was a treat in itself. Parallel to a heart-warming story of Christmas in Indian Country was the tale of how Will Hill battled with a potentially deadly illness and came back to the stage to pursue his passion. Hill's message of personal triumph and the inspiring power of optimism was the perfect compliment to the stage performance. Hill credits the support of the cast for being able to continue doing what he loves in the face of adversity.

"A Winters Song," gives the audience a taste of the classic, "A Christmas Carol," with a delightfully Native twist featuring Hill as Narrator, Ebenezer Screechowl. Hill is full-blood Muscogee/Cherokee and a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. He returned to the production from 2006 and 2007, which is one of ten original plays written by Hill. As a writer, actor, director, composer and flutist, Hill has traveled and performed in over 3, 000 venues since 1992.

Photograph submitted

Muscogee "Creek" citizen Will Hill is pictured along with co-star Jehean Washington. Each reprising roles in the production "A Winter Song." This year the cast teamed up with the Diabetes Program to bring awareness to the deadly disease that affects the nation.

These powerful performers on a mission may have built their play on a theme but there is no lack of individuality and culture. This Christmas performance is catered specifically to native audience and has rich, traditional music. The audience was treated to songs such as "Silent Night," "Joy to the World," and "Jingle Bells," all in the traditional Muscogee (Creek) Language. One of the less than traditional but completely original musical scores was "Commodity Cheese." This song, laced with nostalgic, humor was a hit with the audience and is an original composition by Will Hill and Jehnean Washington.

Hill is the co-founder of Mahenwahdose Production Company, which became the first American Indian performance troupe to perform at the National Museum of American Indian. As a recognized Smithsonian storyteller, Hill is involved many community organization.

He serves as a board member of the Tulsa City/ County Library American Indian Resource Center and as Board member to AITCO. Hill was voted "Favorite Indian Performer in the State of Oklahoma" and was awarded the 2004 Moscelyn Larkin Cultural Achievement Award by the Greater Tulsa Area Indian Affairs Commission. The talents of Hill were displayed when shared his family's stories in Nov. 2007 at EPCOT in Orlando, Fl., when Mahenwwahdose was selected to represent Oklahoma at the "Oklahoma Celebration."

Hill also provided voice-over and played flute in the song "Trail of Tears," which was written by his co-star Jehnean Washington and was recently nominated for a Grammy.

Hill recalled a time when his future on stage was not promised and how he worked to get back to the stage after losing his leg to diabetes. Hill has taken what is normally perceived as a tragedy, beat the odds and used that lesson to perpetuate new momentum in his career and a new mission incorporated into his work. Hill shares his knowledge and experience about diabetes with others in hopes to stamp out this silent killer.

He tells people about some of potential risks hidden below the surface of eating habits and lifestyle. One aspect of the importance to taking care of your health, Hill points out is that diabetes does more than just harm the person who suffers from it, it also hurts families.

> *"I absolutely love the Creek people and I am very proud of this nation. I am going to perform and I hope it inspires others." - Will Hill*

OBITUARIES

WILBUR GOUGE

HANNA — Wilbur Gouge was born March 13, 1951 and raised in Hanna and was the son of late Albert and Sally (Spaniard) Gouge.

He graduated from Capital Hill High School in 1969 and went on to Haskell Indian Junior College. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and received an honorable discharge in 1974. He is a member of the Deer Clan and a member of the Weogufkee (Muddy Waters) Ceremonial Ground and attended Arbeka Ceremonial Ground.

Wilbur Chebon Gouge went to be with the Lord on Dec. 5, 2008 with his loved ones surrounding him. He is welcomed into glory by his parents Albert and Sallie Gouge, two brothers, Ernest and Wilford Gouge, and one sister Melissa Gouge, and one son Stephen Albert Gouge.

He is survived by his wife Cheryl (Whitebuffalo) Gouge of Eufaula, his son Rayburn, three brothers William Gouge of Eufaula, Felix Gouge of Oklahoma City, and Cecil Gouge of Tulsa, along with seven sisters; Elizabeth Townsend of Okmulgee, Evelyn Wood of Oklahoma City, Sara Wilson of Tulsa, Helen Gouge of Wetumka, Nancy Deer of Okmulgee, Peggy Gouge of Glenpool and Kristine Gouge of Humble, Texas. Wilbur is also survived by loves of his life, his grand children Anthony and Gabe, his grand baby Eliyah, numerous nieces and nephews and three adopted daughters Mahleah Cindy of Lawrence Kansas, Tashina and Michelle of Tahlequah.

Wilbur Gouge served on the Muscogee (Creek) National Council for five sessions serving in the offices of Speaker and Second Speaker along with chairing the Human Development Committee. He was most currently employed by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as the Grant Compliance Officer in the NAHASDA Program.

Wilbur was well known throughout the tribe as someone who got the job done, by his strong and steadfast voice and by his knuckle crunching hand shake. He was the one people depended upon for an honest and truthful opinion and always willing to share his knowledge from traditional lessons to legislative policy. When asked to assist his answer was always, “I’ll be there.”

While on the National Council he brought a sense of tradition to the Council floor by reminding the representatives of the foundation our ancestors laid before them. As Speaker of the House he would greet everyone in the Muscogee language and interpret for the elders what actions were being taken.

While on the National Council he became a founding member of the MCN Challenge Bowl Committee. He became the traditional advisor for the games and made sure the competition didn’t over ride the true spirit of the games, the spirit of learning. His love for the games showed in his commitment to teach the volunteers and students that if you know where you come from you will know where you are going.

In 2007, the Challenge Bowl committee official named the sportsmanship award the “Wilbur Chebon Gouge Honors Teams Award” to honor him for his contribution to the betterment of this nation. For generations to come, children will know his name, benefit from his knowledge, and credit him for teaching them what it truly means to be a good Creek citizen.

In 2008, the Muscogee Nation honored him as a Living Legend to acknowledge his years of work and dedication to the Muscogee people. Chebon has been one of the leading forces behind making Creek Nation more accessible to our youth, parents, community members and employees. On every committee that he participated in, he kept them grounded by making tbe Creek culture the focal point of the program or events.

Chebon gave his all in his work and even more for his volunteer efforts. He would come to meetings during his lunch hour, before and after work hours, and many times on weekends. He served as a traditional consultant for the Tobacco Prevention Program, the Traditional advisor for the MCN Scholarship Pageant and a founding member and Chair of the Muscogee Language Program Committee.

From the writings of Wilbur Gouge; “As a role model for the next group behind you, how many will you inspire? How many will follow in your footsteps? Lets hope and pray there will be many.”

Wilbur’s words are still ringing true - “I’ll be there,” but now he’s waiting on us.

DIANA HICKS

HENRYETTA — Funeral Services for Diana Hicks were held Mon., Nov. 17 at Weogufkee Baptist Church in Hanna under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home in Henryetta.

Diana was born on Nov. 20, 1970 to Leo Hicks, Sr. and Eliza Hicks in Claremore. She passed away on November 13 in Tulsa at the age of 37.

Being a resident of Henryetta all of her life, one of her favorite things to do was playing first base for the family softball team. If she wasn’t playing, she loved to watch her nephew play baseball. Another favorite thing for her was to write in her notebooks and collect pens. All her little cousins will miss her the most! If anyone knew Diane, she always had candy or gum for the kids.

Preceding her in death were here parents, Leo and Eliza Hicks, one nephew, Leo Hicks, III, and her grandparents, Edmond and Louise Hicks.

Diane left behind her soul mate of 10 years, Robert “Bo” Greenfeather; one brother, Leo Hicks, Jr. of Henryetta, two nephews Brian Shane and Mathew Hicks of Henryetta; one niece, Leslie Hicks of Henryetta, four aunts, one uncle, and a host of cousins.

Pallbearers were Chris Jackson, Darryl Proctor, Kevin Soap, Sam Beaver III, Brian Tarpalechee and Robert Satterfield. Honorary pallbearers were Jason Harjo Sr., Bryant Beaver, Robin Beaver, Dion Brownfield and Leroy Soap.

GENE HARJO

OKMULGEE — Gene Harjo was born on Oct. 24, 1932 in Okmulgee to Albert (Mongee) and Lillie Mae Yarholar Harjo. Gene passed away on Dec. 14 at the VA hospital in Oklahoma City.

He served his country from Sept. 15, 1951 until his Honorable Discharge on Oct. 26, 1954. He served in the U.S. Naval Air Squadron during the Korean Conflict.

He accepted the Lord as his Savior at Indian Southern Baptist Church, Wichita, Kan., and was baptized in 1957 by the late Rev. Allen Morris. Rev. Gene became licensed to preach the Gospel Sept. 24, 1966 by Sand Creek Indian Baptist Church in Wetumka. He was publicly set apart and ordained to the work of the gospel ministry Oct. 7, 1967.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Albert (Mongee) and Lillie Harjo and a brother, Glenn Harjo.

Survivors include his son Jimmy Cletus Harjo, daughter Kindalei Jean Harjo, sister Delores Herrod, aunt Leola Barnett, seven grandchildren: Clifton, Shaylyne, Alicia, Cleutus, Jacy, Dakota, and Ashley, and a dear and precious supporting friend, Abilene Fletcher.

Pallbearers were Jimmy Harjo, Dakota Harjo, Albert Harjo, Jerry Harjo, Cleatus Hawk, Glenn Harjo Jr., Randy Harjo, and David Nichols. Honorary pallbearers were kinfolk and friends.

MABLE MCNAC

MORRIS — Mable Rose McNac, a resident of Morris, went to be with her Lord on Saturday. Dec. 27, 2008 at the age of 69 years, seven months and 20 days. She was born on Sun., May 7, 1939 to James and Rosie (Alexander) Yeager in Claremore, Okla. For the past 30 years, she worked as a nurse’s aide in long-term care and rehab. She was very involved in her church and was a member of the Belvin Baptist Church where she enjoyed singing and was a Sunday School Director.

She was preceded in death by her parents, James and Rosie Yeager; two sons, Wallace Yeager and Jimmy McNac.

Survivors include her two daughters, Marla McNac of Morris and Paula McNac of Bristow; one son, Gerald McNac and wife, Dorothy of Corinth, Mississippi; nine grandchildren, Eldric Yeager, Walina Sawyer, Cynthia McNac, Cathrine McNac, Casandra Stouder, Kara McNac, Samantha McNac, Terel McNac and Torrance McNac; nine great grandchildren; one sister, Blanche Beaver; two brothers, Newman Yeager and James Yeager, Jr.; numerous other relatives and friends.

Wake Services were held Tues., Dec. 30, 2008 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., at the Belvin Baptist Church in Okmulgee.

Funeral Services were held at 1 p.m. Wed. Dec. 31, 2008 at the Belvin Baptist Church with Randy Colbert and Kellos Walker officiating. A burial followed the service at the Morris Cemetery under the direction of the Shurden Funeral Home of Okmulgee.

Pallbearers will be Eldric Yeager, Jason Sawyer, J.R. Haney, Michael Haney, Keith Barnett and Eddie Lowe, Jr.

Friends may send their condolences to www.shurdenkelley.com

ANTHONY DOXTATOR

OKEMAH — Funeral Services for Anthony Doxtator were held Thurs. Dec. 4 at the Springfield Indian Methodist Church in Okemah. Interment was at the Thloplocco Cemetery.

Anthony Doxtator was born Aug. 18, 1958 in Oklahoma City to Warren and Juanita (Long) Doxtator. He passed away on Mon., Dec. 1, in Okemah at the age of 50.

Anthony grew up in Okemah area having graduated from Okemah High School in 1977. Anthony later attended Haskell Indian Jr. College for two years and also UCO in Edmond. He was a member of the Okemah football team that won the state title in 1977. Anthony enjoyed sports, especially tennis and football. He also enjoyed a little “R&R” every now and then. Anthony served his country with the United States Army National Guard, and later with the Army, for over 15 years. During this time he was stationed in Germany and also in Korea.

He is preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by two sisters, Annette “Honey Bee” Guinn and husband Dwight Johnson of Guymon, Oklahoma and Anita “Sissy” Boos and Husband Keith of Cache, Oklahoma.

Serving as active pallbearers will be Patrick Hicks, Vernon Yarholar, Luther Johnson, A. J. Berryhill, Gary Canard, Sherwood Anderson. Honorary pallbearers include Carl Noon, Victor Berryhill, Thomas Yarholar, Turner Walker, Jim Humble, and Clarence Yarholar.

THANK YOU

To all our Creek Nation family, I would like to say thank you for your kind thoughts and card of sympathy in the loss of my daughter, Viola Tolbert who was the great granddaughter of Chief Motey Tiger. May God bless all of you.

-Evelyn Smith and Family.

FAMILY MEMBERS OF MILITARY ACTIVE DUTY MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZENS

It is requested that family members of Military Active Duty, National Guard and Reserves kindly call or write to the Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO) to provide the following:

- **Name**
- **Service Branch**
- **Unit**
- **Mailing Address**
- **E-mail Address**
- **Any and all pertinent information you wish to provide**

The Requested purpose of this information is to publicly honor and recognize our tribal citizens on Military Active Duty, National Guard and Reserves.

Please contact:
Shawn Taryole
(918) 732-7745
staryole@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
Ken Davis
(918) 732-7739
kendavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Littlebear named 2008 All-American

• Creek citizen Paul Littlebear's sophomore season at Oklahoma School for the Deaf garners national acclaim

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

SAPULPA — You don't necessarily have to tune in to television's Dr. Phil to realize how important communication is in everday life. For Paul Littlebear, it was the desire for effective communication that led him to perhaps his greatest opportunity.

You see, Paul is just an ordinary teenage athlete looking to make an impact on the field. To the naked eye, there is nothing different about Paul than most of the kids his age. Except for one thing; he is hearing impaired. And not every school is geared to assist students with such needs.

"I started out at Sapulpa, but I just really couldn't communicate there like I needed to, to get the most out of myself," said Littlebear. "So I decided to come to Oklahoma School for the Deaf and it's been great for me."

Great for him? Sure. But I'm guessing that the coaches at OSD would say it's been a fair trade. In just his first season at OSD, Littlebear has blossomed into an absolute star, leading the Indians to the Great Plains School for the Deaf Conference title while racking up over 1,300 yards rushing with 15 TDs from his running back position. In the conference title game alone Paul blistered the Iowa School for the Deaf Bobcats for 343 rushing yards on just 18 carries. What makes the numbers even more impressive is that Littlebear missed four games and still amassed more yards than most backs while receiving about half the carries. His big-play ability was evident from the 15 yards per carry average he held throughout the year, which was good for tops in the state. The scary fact for opposing coaches that have OSD on their schedules? The 5'7", 165 lb 'stecate is only a sophomore and will be around to terrorize defenses in the GPSD conference for two more years. OSD coach Tommy Varner knows he has something special.

"Paul is a tremendous talent and a big addition to this program," Varner told the *Sulphur Times-Democrat.* "He has done wonders for us at the safety and running back positions. Just a very skilled and smart football player."

Littlebear has not only gained praise from his coaches and local media, but he's getting love from a national audience as well. He was recently named to the first-team NDIAC 8-man football All-American team. If you're looking for Paul to toot his own horn though, you'd better reconsider. He's as humble off the field as he is ferocious on it.

"It's nice to be an All-American," he admits. "But I don't worry about individual stuff too much, I just play the game."

It seems that Littlebear and OSD have found a perfect fit in each other. The Indians were coming off of a win-less season in 2007, and Paul was searching for a school where he could thrive in a barrier-free environment. One year later, OSD are conference champions in football and Littlebear is thriving at his new school. A win-win situation.

"The move to OSD was just a tremendous benefit for him, because he felt frustrated at times before he came here," said Paul's mother, Karen. "We're just so happy that it's worked out so well."

One of Paul's main concerns was how much communication between players and coaches goes into the game of football. In most cases plays are getting shuttled in and out and different formations are implemented on the fly. At OSD, Paul was surrounded by athletes like him, that have to use alternative means of communicating, which made the transition that much easier. That and the fact that the head coach, Tommy Varner, is also deaf.

"It's a lot different here, just how comfortable I am now," said Littlebear. "It's just great."

Phillips crowned Alaska mat champ

• Creek athlete scores takedown in OT to bring home 189 lb. title

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — If you're out there looking for a Creek citizen who also happens to be a high school state wrestling champion, you might have to do some traveling. Start at the Last Frontier and work your way down.

That's where Aaron Phillips calls home, and he is the new 189 lb Alaska state champ. Wrestling for Kotzebue Middle High School, Phillips blazed through the first three rounds of the ASAA 1-2-3a State Wrestling Championships before a thrilling final that saw him finish as the state's top 189 pound grappler.

Entering the tourney as the top seed, Phillips got right to business making short work of his first opponent Oren Kroll with a pin to move on to the quarterfinals. There he was met by Cordova High School senior Bryan Carillo. It was the same song and dance for Phillips, as he pinned Carillo at the 3:23 mark to advance to semi-final against Corbin Quigley. Again, Phillips dominated his opponent with a fall at 4:59 to advance to the state championship match against the tournament's #2 seed, Bethel High School's Nick Wasierski. The match got off to a slow start with no points for either wrestler and a stall warning for Wasierski in the first round. Things heated up in the second with Phillips striking first on a one point escape, which was answered by a two point takedown from Wasierski, leaving the score 2-1 in favor of Wasierski heading into the final round. After Wasierski widened the gap to 3-1 with an escape to open the third, Phillips scored a clutch takedown with eight seconds remaining in the match to send the championship to overtime. In overtime, Phillips didn't waste the opportunity his clutch takedown provided him and scored a two point takedown for the win and the 189 lb. Alaska state championship.

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Should old acquaintance be forgot and never brought to mind? Should old acquaintance be forgot and days of auld lang syne?

In case you were wondering those are lyrics to the old traditional New Year's song *Auld Lang Syne*, which is sung every year by folks that are, how should I say this, slightly impaired at the time. But the song actually got its start as a Scottish poem and the title literally translates to "the good old days." I mention that useless bit of information here to say that the year of 2008 in the sports world will probably be looked back on by this generation as the good old days. Simply put, it probably won't get much better in the future than it was in '08. Let's take a look back at the year that was and the two top moments in my estimation.

First out of the gate was probably the best Super Bowl in the last decade between the undefeated and supposedly invincible New England Patriots and the underdog New York Giants. Now I say the best not because of the final score or because of the amount of points scored. There have certainly been more points and closer margins. But this one was memorable, because of the dynamic this game brought to the forefront. The Patriots were trying to become history's greatest team, with an unmatched 19-0 record. And maybe two people outside of the Giants die-hard contingency gave the G-men a chance. But there was little-used David Tyree snagging the most improbable reception in the history of football to save the Giants drive. A wobbling duck from quarterback Eli Manning, who himself had escaped the jaws of the vaunted Pats' D not once but TWICE on the play, found itself pinned against Tyree's helmet and safely to the ground on a win-or-lose fourth down play. A few plays later Manning found Plaxico Burress wide-open in the end zone for the touchdown and the Vince Lombardi Trophy. The Patriots won every single game they played, except the one they had to have. The Giants were the unlikeliest of champions. Maybe not the best Super Bowl, but one we'll remember for quite a while.

Nothing energizes a sports society like the Olympic Games. For a few weeks national pride meets national pasttimes and the result is pure magic. And the Games of the XXIX Olympics in Beijing will go down as the summer of Michael Phelps. No athlete in Olympic history can stand with Phelps, period. The swimmer's record eight gold medals is an accomplishment that will not be equaled for some time, maybe not ever. But what was more impressive was the drama of his feats and how it froze time and captivated the United States. For the first time in history, workers were excused for tardiness at work citing swim hangover. Grown men were glued to the television to watch a guy wearing a Speedo. Grandmas who didn't know who Michael Jordan was, could tell you Michael Phelps' wingspan. Incredible. Perhaps the greatest satisfaction for American fans, was the single greatest race in the history of Olympic swimming resulted in a gold medal for the U.S. team at the expense of the French. It didn't hurt that the French team had been barking all week about how they were going to "crush" the Americans in the 4X100 meter relay. And they seemed that they were going to live up to that claim when their anchor Alain Benard, who was the 100 meter record holder entered the pool well before American Jason Lezak, who had never won an individual medal. Then... magic. Lezak used an unbelievable final 50 meter kick to finish a hair ahead of the French and finishing his split 0.67 seconds under the world record. Simply unbelievable.

There were a host of other moments but those two are hard to beat. Thanks 2008, we won't forget ya!

JUMPS

Veto

Continued from A1

Aaron

The time line for the term would commence on Jan. 2, 2009 and expire on Jan. 1, 2011. The resolution further resolved that, at the expiration of said term on Jan. 1, 2011, the office shall be deemed vacant and there shall be no hold-over in office. The Council adopted the resolution with a vote of 13 in favor, and 10 opposed.

TR 08-124, classified as Health and Safety, confirmed the nomination of Dr. Howard Condren, a Muscogee (Creek) Citizen to serve as the person possessing knowledge and experience in operational functions of hospitals and clinics to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System Board of Directors. The term was defined as commencing on Jan. 2, 2009 and expiring January 1, 2011. The resolution further resolved that, at the expiration of said term on Jan. 1, 2011 the office shall be deemed vacant and there shall be no holdover in office. The Council adopted the resolution with a vote of 14 in favor, and nine opposed.

Ellis included two objections to each of the vetoes.

The first objection stated on TR 08-123 read, "While serving on the Health Systems Board of Directors, Ms. Graham did not follow tribal law with respect to the employment of the Health Systems Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") Judy Aaron. Ms. Aaron's employment agreement expired, pursuant to its own terms, on Dec. 21, 2007. In addition and consistent with tribal law, the agreement at paragraph 3 provided that any extension of the CEO's term shall be subject to nomination and confirmation under Muscogee (Creek) Nation law. The Health System Board of Directors allowed Ms. Aaron to continue in the position of CEO without nominations and confirmation under the laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. I believe that the Health System Board of Directors attempted to circumvent the process, and in particular attempted to extend the CEO's employment term without the approval of the National Council, which is a violation of Muscogee (Creek) Nation, MCNCA Title 22, 4-105."

Ellis' objection for the TR 08-123 Veto, regarding the re-nomination of Dr. Condren was the same as his objection for the re-nomination of Alef "Nancy" Graham. The objection stated the same for Dr. Condren. The objection by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis concerning Dr. Condren was centered on the employment of Health Systems Chief Executive Officer Judy Aaron. The second objection to Condren and Grahams' reappointment was, "I am dissatisfied with the current operation and direction of the Health Systems. I believe that it is time for new people and ideas to serve on the Health System Board of Directors to help improve the Health Systems and the health care provided to the citizens of this Nation." Results of Council votes to be continued.

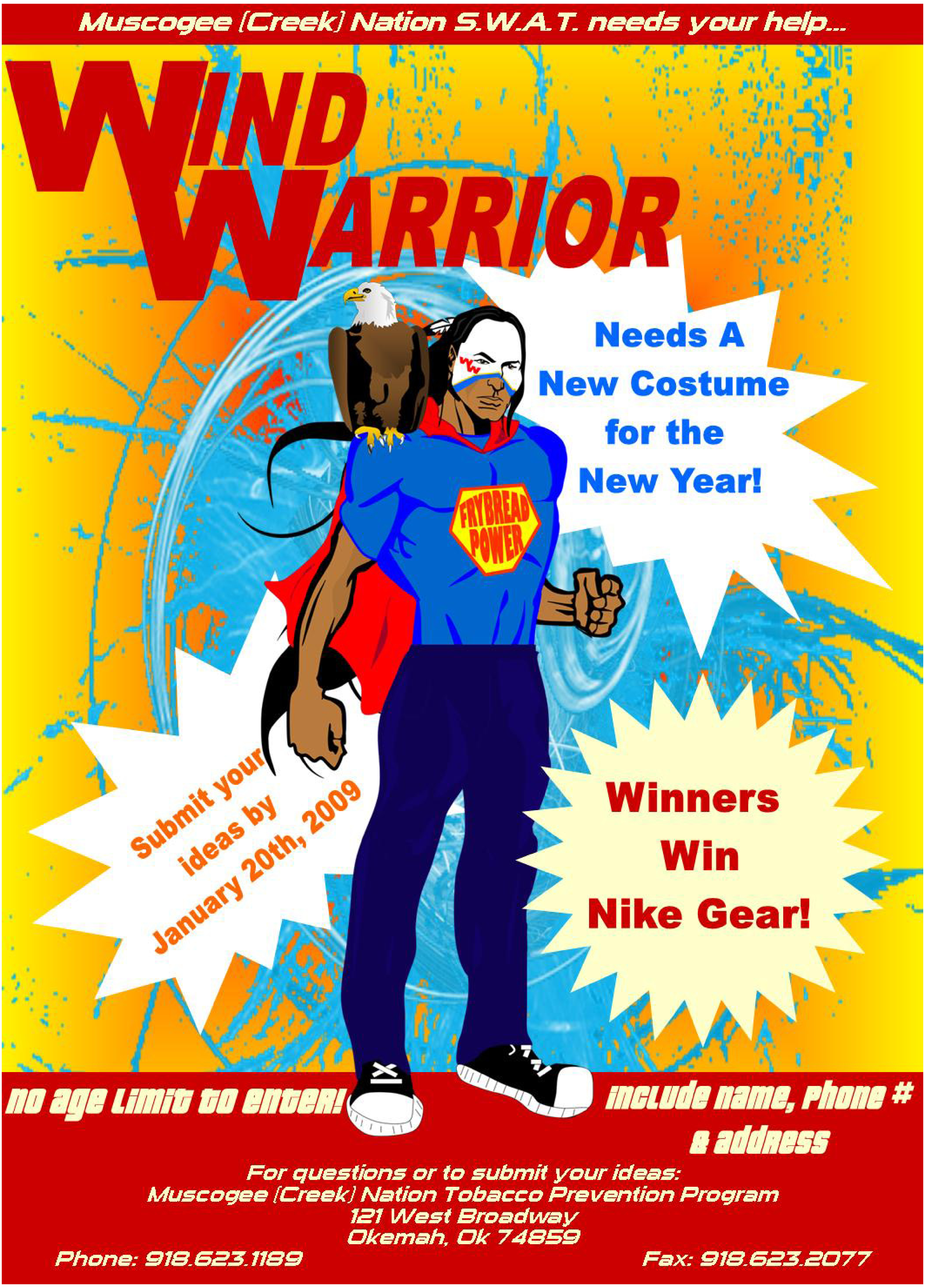
Honor

Continued from B1

We have been providing those Honors to our veterans across the Mvskoke Nation for almost 13 years now, sometimes on short notice and in the heat of summer, the cold of winter, rain, sleet, snow or sunshine. Unflinching and with devotion,.. We've been there. The satisfaction of knowing we've done the right thing and the gratitude of the families and our Nation is thanks enough for our efforts.

None of us are getting any younger and sometimes,... we could use some help. So, if you're an honorably discharged Mvskoke Veteran and think you might like to be a part of our group, we invite you to come to our next meeting, which will be held 10 a.m., Sat. Jan. 10, 2009, at the B.I.A. Conference Room, in the tribal Office complex at Okmulgee.

Mvto,
Efv Haco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2008 Year-in-Review

SECTION C • www.themuscogeecreeknation.com • January 2009

2008 Muscogee people

Chief Ellis and wife Gail visit the White House in Jan.

The late Chebon Gouge sits among the crowd at Inauguration in Jan.

The “Alabama Sisters” captured by photographer Tom Fields in March.

Lead singer of Four on the Floor, E.C. Haynes rocked in May.

Traditional potter Mike Daniel showed his art at the Creek Festival in June.

CMN received a $50,000 donation from VGT in July.

Veterans honored cadet Dion “Trey” Francis before his journey to West Point.

Macon Mayor Reichert and Sam Henderson met with Speaker Yahola in Oct.

You say goodbye, I say hello

• Citizens say goodbye to 2008 and look to the new year with high expectations

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

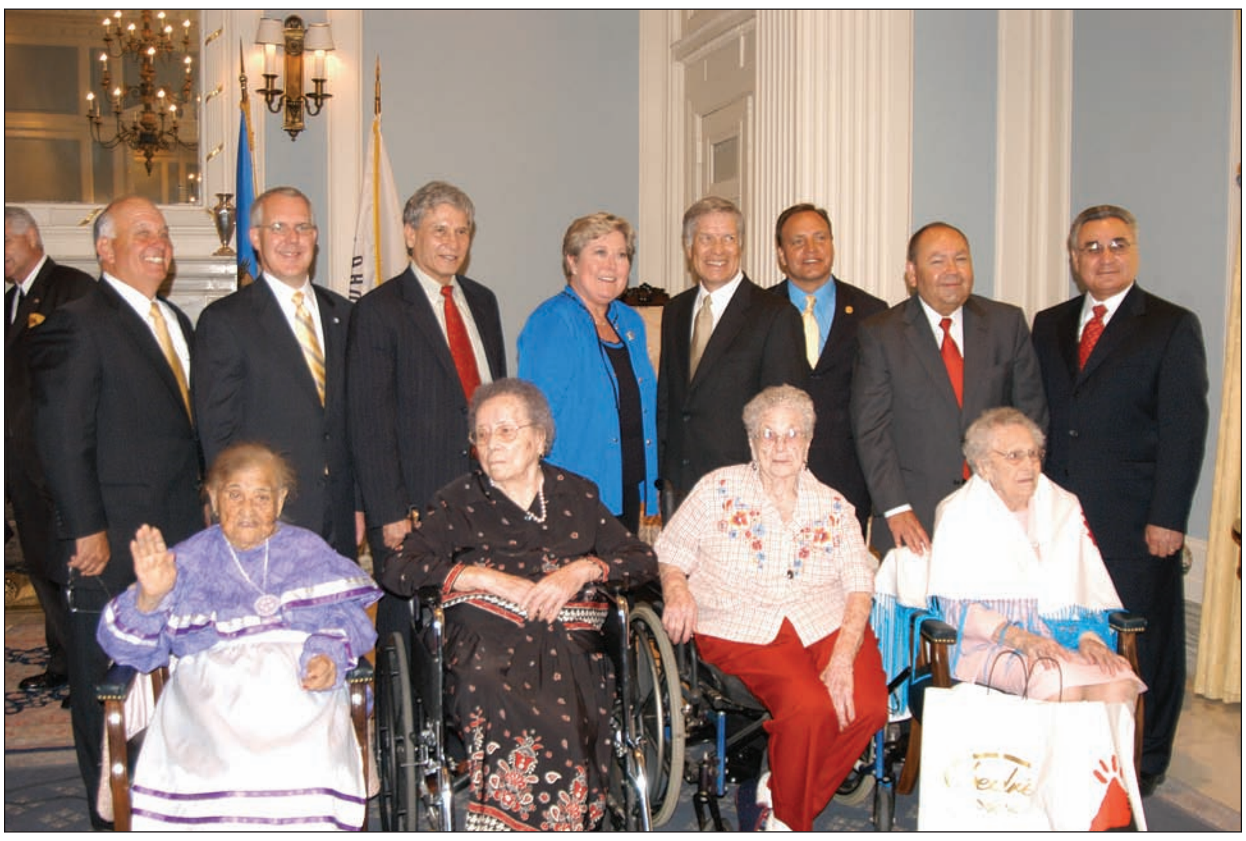
OKMULGEE — As I was trying to come up with a title for this article, the Beatles’ song popped into my head and I thought it pretty much summed up the mixed feelings associated with the arrival of a New Year.

However, before I broke out the party streamers or started mumbling the words to Auld Lang Syne, I wanted to take a minute to look back at 2008 and note the progress our Nation has made over the last 12 months since I’ve been here.

I don’t usually write in first person (sans my opinion column in the Extra Edition) but I wanted to take the opportunity to let the readers in on what it’s like to be a journalist for just a few minutes. With that said, there are an infinite number of stories that cross my mind on a daily basis. Not all are feasible and some would be uninteresting to most, but it is the people I come across everyday that inspire my writing and give me passion for what I do and who I am today.

Over the past year, I have gotten the opportunity to meet tribal dignitaries, leaders, veterans, artists, employees and many more. The first event I ever covered was the 2008 Inauguration almost a year ago. Since then, there have been a host of events from the Festival in summer to the first Constitutional Convention held in over a century. Despite the many stories to choose from, perhaps it is those of the elders that have grabbed my attention the most.

Our elders are the Muscogee culture and carry with them the traditions, language and spirit of our tribe. They have so much knowledge to offer the younger generations and I feel truly honored to stand in the presence of any one of them.



MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Pictured above are original allottees (front row, L to R) Martha Berryhill - Muscogee (Creek), Georgia Mae Roebuck Self - Choctaw, Ruby Lee Trammell Brewer - Choctaw, Daisy Hawley Blackbird - Chickasaw, (back row, L to R) Rep. Jerry McPeak (D), Gov. Brad Henry, Chief Chad Smith - Cherokee, Lt. Gov. Jerri Askins, Chief Greg Pyle - Choctaw, Asst. Chief Gary Batton - Choctaw, Gov. Bill Anoatubby - Chickasaw, Lt. Gov Jefferson Keel - Chickasaw.

For me, one of the most memorable stories of the year focused on the eight remaining, original Dawes Rolls allottees including the only surviving Muscogee (Creek) allottee Martha Berryhill whose celebrity status here at the tribe was also noted at her 108th birthday celebration back in July.

The recognition of the allottees by the state signifies a turning point for all Native Americans in Oklahoma in that, “they are our history,” as Rep. Jerry McPeak stated during his speech at the event.

We have come a long way, but we still have a way to go. So say your goodbyes while thinking of the progress made and obstacles overcome not only over the last year, but the last 100 as well and remember that the past does come in handy when planning for the future.

Goodbye 2008.

Hello 2009.

Constitutional Convention

• A reflection of history and a step to the future for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

From the earliest meeting held last spring to the consecutive days of voting, the Constitutional Convention is one of the most memorable events of 2008. It was set apart from any other law-making process because the decision makers for the laws were the very people who are governed by those laws. In a country rooted in democracy, there are few instances were any average citizen can play such a significant role in shaping the laws of a nation than in the MCN.

The foundations for this turning point in the history and future of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation were laid in the 1970s when amendments were made to the Constitution establishing a Constitutional Convention. In early Nov., registered voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation gathered to protect what they held by the power of their vote.

Security was a priority for the event. Despite the significance of this first in a 150 year convention, no media crews except those who were Muscogee (Creek) citizens and registered voters were allowed at the convention. One of the reasons for this was to preserve the integrity of the Convention. A stringent protocol was followed in the balloting process in an effort to make the final count as accurate as possible and in order for that to happen, citizens had to vacate the building after each ballot vote.

While casting a vote for proposals to the Constitution was an important responsibility, so was the planning process for the event. A Commission was formed and charged with the task of holding informative meetings for the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. A seemingly simply enough task for those leaders who are proficient and organized. However, this was met with some opposition as some struggled to figure out who should and should not be on the Commission. It was a question that required input from the Supreme Court. With the commission finally decided upon, it was time to make sure as many voting citizens as possible had an understanding of the purpose of the Convention and knew just how important it was that they take action.

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizen Lyle Deer mediates at the Constitutional Convention by explaining information and ensuring rules of the Convention were upheld.

The main reason behind holding a Convention was to examine the laws of the Nation and determine whether those laws needed to be altered in order to better the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Amendments were proposed which ranged from altering titles of leaders to changing blood quantum requirements in order to be able to run for elected office.

Voters braved some confusion and a three-day-long process which may be comparable to a growing pain. Because the Convention was the first one of its kind in over a century, there were obstacles to overcome, however, the voters endured.

Of the approximately 100 proposals submitted to the Convention only 13 were passed. Before these can become law there is still another round of voting after an approval by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis. Many proposals that seemed unnecessary or harmful were quickly thrown out by the voting populace, an indication that the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation took the task of protecting the future seriously.

Adopted constitutional amendments

• Passed by the Constitutional Convention held Nov. 7 and 8, 2008

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The following amendments, revisions, or alterations to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution were adopted by the Convention and certified by the Constitutional Convention Commission Dec. 1, 2008.

The Constitutional Convention Commission shall now begin work with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board to prepare wording for separate ballots for each amendment, revision, alteration or addition to be submitted to the citizens at a Special Election.

A-18 - PASSED
YES - 133
NO - 122

[A18]; Amending Existing Article III §1; This Constitution is hereby amended to state and require that the Principal Chief shall appoint one member to the Citizenship Board every other year, and the National Council shall appoint one member the next year, then every other year, all subject to majority approval of tile National Council.

A45 - PASSED BY VOICE VOTE

[A45]; Amending Existing Article V §1 (e); This Constitution is hereby amended to state that the oath of office of the Principal Chief is hereby amended to read "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute The Office of the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and will, to the best of my ability, uphold the Constitution and the Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation."

A46 - PASSED
YES - 99
NO - 94

[A46]; Amending Existing Article V §1(f); This Constitution is hereby amended to state that no person shall be eligible for the office of Principal Chief or Second Chief who has a felony conviction from a court of competent jurisdiction. Neither shall any person with a felony conviction from a court of competent jurisdiction be appointed to hold any appointive office established by, or under, this Constitution.

A51 - PASSED
YES -126
NO - 61

[A51]; Amending Existing Article V §3; Article V §3 is hereby Amended to state and require that,

a) The Principal Chief shall prepare the annual budget request and supplements thereto.

b) Budget requests, other appropriations and amendments thereto shall be considered by the National Council with the same limitations and rules as any other bill.

c) The Principal Chief shall administer appropriated funds with the advice and consent of the National Council.

A59 - PASSED
YES -102
NO-86

[A59]; Amending Existing Article VI; This Constitution is hereby Amended to state that the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation reserve to themselves the power to propose laws, and to enact or reject the same at the polls independent of the National Council, and also reserve power at their own option to approve or reject at the polls any act of the National Council.

The First Power reserved by the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is the Initiative, and eight (8) percent of voters who voted in the last General Election for the office of Principal Chief shall have the right to propose any legislative measure, and every such Initiative Petition shall include the full text of the measure so proposed.

Initiative Petitions shall be filed with the Secretary of the Nation and addressed to the Principal Chief who shall submit the same to the citizen voters at a Special Election, unless there is a General Election within 90 days.

The National Council shall make suitable provisions for carrying into effect the provision of this Amendment.

The veto power of the Principal Chief shall not extend to measures voted on by the People.

Measures referred to the People by initiative shall take effect and be in force when approved by a majority of the votes cast thereon and not otherwise.

A60 - PASSED BY VOICE VOTE

[A60]; Amending Existing Article VI; This Constitution is hereby Amended to state and require that if any National Council meeting is cancelled for lack of a quorum, each absent member of that committee shall be personally fined $175.00 for the cancelled meeting. The Speaker of the National Council shall be responsible for the collection of fines.

A67 - PASSED I RUN-OFF
YES - 85
NO - 84

[A67]; Amending Existing Article VI §2; Article VI §2 is hereby Amended to state that all legislative power herein shall be vested in the Muscogee (Creek) National Council which shall consist of one (1) House with two (2) Representatives from each district, and further, that the number of National Council Representatives shall be set at a maximum of 16 members and additional seats may not be added without constitutional amendment.

A78 - PASSED
YES - 97
NO-7B

[A78]; Amending Existing Article VI §5; This Constitution is hereby Amended to state and require that all increases in National Council members' compensation must be approved by a vote of the people.

A99 - PASSED
YES -106
NO- 39

[A99]; Amending Existing Article VIII §1; This Constitution is hereby Amended to slate and require that conviction of a felony in a court of competent jurisdiction shall cause the immediate removal from office of any elected or appointed official.

A105 - PASSED I RUN-OFF
YES -78
NO- 62

[A105]; Amending Existing Article IX, §2; Article IX §2 is hereby repealed.

A112 - PASSED BY VOICE VOTE

[A112], NEW; Protection of Cultural Sites and Objects; This Constitution is hereby Amended to establish and require that the government of the Muscogee Nation shall protect individual burials and cemeteries which contain burials of Muscogee people. The tribal government shall participate in the reburial of disinterred Muscogee burials and all objects removed from their original burial. Burials shall be reinterred at or in close proximity to the place from which they were disinterred, and in a place protected by a Conservation Easement in the name of the Muscogee Nation in perpetuity. Objects of cultural patrimony, except those in possession of a Citizen or ceremonial ground, shall be protected by law as tribal common property and as tribal intellectual property. The jurisdiction of the Muscogee Nation in enforcing this Amendment shall include: the cultural perimeter of Muskoghean peoples in the southeastern United States, routes of removal, the routes and camps of the exodus to Kansas and Texas caused by the United Stales Civil War, and those lands described by the Treaty of 1833.

A113 - PASSED
YES - 69
NO - 63

[A113]; NEW; This Constitution is hereby Amended to establish REFERENDUM AND RECALL;

Section 1. The Muscogee Creek People may propose and enact laws by the initiative or reject acts of the Muscogee Creek Nation National Council by the referendum.

Section 2. An initiative or referendum is proposed by an application containing the bill to be initiated or the act to be referred. The application shall be signed by not less than one hundred (100) qualified Muscogee Creek Nation voters as sponsors and shall be filed with the person authorized by the Muscogee Creek Nation law to receive the same. The application shall be certified, if found in proper form. Denial of certification shall be subject to judicial review.

Section 3. After certification of the application, a petition containing a summary of the subject matter shall be prepared by the person authorized by Muscogee Creek Nation law to do so for circulation by the sponsors. If signed by qualified Muscogee Creek Nation voters who are equal in number to at least fifteen (15) percent of the electorate, it may be filed.

Section 4. An initiative petition may be filed at any time. The person authorized Muscogee Creek Nation law to do so shall prepare a ballot title and proposition summarizing the proposed law, and shall place them on the ballot for the first election held after adjournment of legislative session following the filing. If before the election, substantially the same measure has been enacted, the petition is void.

Section 5. A referendum petition may be filed only within ninety (90) days after adjournment of the legislative session at which the act was passed. The person authorized by Muscogee Creek Nation law to do so shall prepare a ballot title and proposition summarizing the act and shall place them on the ballot for the first election held after adjournment of that session.

Section 6. If a majority of the votes cast on tile proposition favor its adoption, tile initiated measure is enacted. If a majority of tile votes cast on tile proposition favor tile refection of an act referred, it is rejected. The person authorized by Muscogee Creek Nation law to do so shall certify tile election returns. An initiated law becomes effective ninety (90) days after certification, is not subject to veto by the Principal Chief, and may not be repealed by the Muscogee Creek Nation National Council within two (2) years of the effective date. It may be amended at any time. An act rejected by referendum is void thirty (30) days after certification. Additional procedures for the initiative and referendum may be prescribed by Muscogee Creek Nation law.

Section 7. The initiative shall not be used to dedicate revenues, make or repeal appropriations, create courts, define the jurisdiction of courts or prescribe their rules, or enact local or special legislation. The referendum shall not be applied to dedications of revenue, to appropriations, or to laws necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health or safety of the Muscogee Creek People. No article, section, or provision of the Muscogee Creek Nation Constitution shall be amended except as provided in this Constitution.

Section 8. All elected and/or appointed officials of the Muscogee Creek Nation are subject to recall by the qualified Muscogee Creek voters. The grounds for recall of a judicial officer shall be established by the Muscogee Creek Nation Supreme Court. The grounds for recall of an officer other than a judge are serious malfeasance or nonfeasance, during the term of office, in the performance of the duties of the office or a conviction, during the term of office, of a felony or conviction of a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude. After certification of the Application, as set forth in Section 2 of this Article, a petition for recall shall be prepared by the person authorized by Muscogee Creek Nation law to do so and the petition shall set forth the specific conduct that may warrant recall. A recall petition may not be issued for circulation by the sponsors until tile Muscogee Creek Nation Supreme Court has determined that the facts alleged in the petition are true and are sufficient grounds for issuing a recall petition. A recall petition must be signed by qualified Muscogee Creek voters who are equal in number to at least fifteen (15) percent of the electorate. Upon a determination by the person authorized by Muscogee Creek Nation law to so determine that a petition has been signed by at least the minimum number of the eligible voters, a recall election must be conducted in the manner provided by Muscogee Creek Nation law. The incumbent shall continue to perform the duties of the office until the recall election results are officially declared and, unless the incumbent declines or no longer qualifies, the incumbent shall without filing be deemed to have filed for the recall election. A recall election may not occur less than six (6) months before the end of the officer's term. An officer who is removed from office by a recall election or who resigns from office after a petition for recall issues may not be appointed to fill the vacancy that is created. Additional procedures and grounds for recall may be prescribed by the Muscogee Creek Nation National Council.

A114- PASSED
YES - 93
NO - 45

[A114], NEW; Litigation Between Tribal Officers; This Constitution is hereby Amended to establish and require that all litigation between tribal officers shall originate in the District Court of the Nation, with the right of appeal to the Supreme Court. All questions of fact shall be determined by jury trial.

A115 - PASSED BY VOICE VOTE

[A115]; Establishment of the Board of Regents of the College of the Muscogee Nation; This Constitution is hereby Amended to establish the Board of Regents for the College of the Muscogee Nation. The governing body of the Mvskoke Etvlwv Nakcokv Mvhakv Svhulwecvt, otherwise known in the English language as the College of the Muscogee Nation, is hereby vested in the Board of Regents consisting of five members to be appointed by the Principal Chief with the advice and consent of the National Council. The term of said Regents shall be in accordance with the rules set forth in the Charter and the By-laws of the Mvskoke Etvlwv Nacokv Mvhakv Svhulwecvt, the College of the Muscogee Nation. The exception is that the appointed member of the Board of Regents in office at the time of the adoption of this Amendment as provided by law at the time of this Amendment's ratification shall continue in office during the term for which he or she was appointed, and thereafter as provided herein. Members of the Board of Regents of the Mvskoke Etvlwv Nacokv Mvhakv Svhulwecvt, the College of the Muscogee Nation, shall be subject to removal from office only as provided by law for the removal of elective officers not liable to impeachment.

2008 Year-in-Review

One of the stunning black and white photos taken by Creek photojournalist Tom Fields for his “Mekusapvlke” project in March.

Pictured L to R: Judge Patrick Moore and Mike Berryhill along with Supreme Court Justice Amos McNac at the dedication of the Council Oak Stickball Park in Dec.

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis cuts the ribbon of the new Lighthorse Administration Building in Sept. Pictured L to R: Tim Harkrider, Chief Ellis, Lighthorse Police Chief Jack Shackleford and Deputy Chief of Special Operations Jay Lonewolf.

Chief Ellis manned the controls of the demolition equipment used to tear down the remnants of the Fountainhead Resort near Lake Eufaula in August.

Longest Walk participants L to R: Roman Becerra (Cherokee), Muscogee (Creek) Nation Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Amy Wagner (Pomo) and Lee Silversmith (Navajo-Arizona) during a rest stop at Thlopthlocco Tribal Town near Okemah, Okla., in Aug.

Tafv Quiett and her buddies make a lap around Tulsa Union Stadium for the annual Down Syndrome Association of Tulsa’s 2008 Buddy Walk in Nov.

Pictured above are tribal officials at the ground breaking ceremony for the Okemah Dental Clinic in Oct.

The late Supreme Court Chief Justice George Almerigi stands with the rest of the crowd at the 2008 Inauguration in Jan.

Photos taken by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department

SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM 2009

Applications will be taken over the phone only, from 9am - 5pm, Monday - Friday, starting on December 22, 2008.

To apply please call 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7775 or 7776. Also, 918-732-7776 or 7775.

Deadline to call and apply is March 27, 2009. Deadline to get ALL application information into Summer Youth Office is Friday, April 3, 2009.

Must be a member of ANY federally recognized tribe and live in the Creek Nation boundaries. Ages 16 - 21 may apply.

RVFO CUSE - WINTER'S YOUNGER BROTHER

THE MNN

• EXTRA EDITION •

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Volume 2, Issue 1
www.themuscogeecreeknation.com
JANUARY 2009

Rebecca Landsberry

Letter from the Editor:

Hensci readers. I hope everyone is fully recovered (or almost) from the holiday season by now. I am already missing the pretty lights gracing the porches of many of our homes, but gearing up for the entirely too-gaudy display of pink and red that is Valentine's Day.

I hear that the Tobacco Prevention program will be selling Native-themed cards and candy for a buck and delivering them around the complex. If, however, you find that openly displaying your love for conversational hearts a bit too much to handle, there is always the option of sending an anonymous card from a "secret admirer" as well.

With the celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr., Day on Jan. 19 and the Inauguration of the first minority president in U.S. history following the day after, it is a good time to acknowledge our own tribal leaders and the time, passion and service they have given to the Mvskoke Etvlwa.

As such, the 2009 State of the Nation Address is scheduled for Sat. Jan. 31 at 10 a.m., in the Mound Auditorium where the tribe will honor the life and service of the late George Almerigi to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation during the monthly National Council meeting.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

• Creek veteran speaks on OIF

Kellen Bible speaks to the Checotah Community about the progress made in Iraq

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• 2010 Census: It's in our hands

Be counted: 2010 U.S. Census Bureau recruiting tribal members

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NATION RECOGNIZES CITIZEN, VETERAN AND LEADER

GEORGE ALMERIGI

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — The Supreme Court Chief Justice of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation ordered a declaration on Jan. 13, 2009 in remembrance of Creek citizen George Almerigi. The proclamation, which was issued after the unanimous vote of all Justices of the Supreme Court, declares Jan. 31, 2009 a day of remembrance for Almerigi.

Justice George Bosen Almerigi was born on Sept. 30, 1933, as a member of the Alligator Clan and a descendant of the Cussetah Tribal Town. It was the dedication and determination of Almerigi in addition to his tireless commitment to Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the Supreme Court sought to honor. Demonstrating superior performance and leadership to the Supreme Court, Almerigi was a loyal citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

As a veteran, he served in both the United States Air Force and the United States Navy during Vietnam and the Gulf War, ultimately attaining the rank of Chief Petty Officer. In 1964, he earned a bachelor's degree in business from Long Beach College in Cali., and a law degree from Oklahoma City University in 1983.

Almerigi served with the distinction of being one of few Creek citizens who have served all three branches of tribal government. He was elected to four terms as an Okmulgee District Representative of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council from 1988 to 1992 and again from 2002 to 2003. In his position as General Counsel and Assistant Attorney General, Almerigi represented the Nation in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. Hodel litigation.

In 1996, Almerigi was elected to serve as Second Chief of Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Ten years later, he served as the Supreme Court Chief Justice where he remained until 2008. Justice Almerigi departed this life on Oct. 27, 2008, but his legacy will continue.

Cleghorn to be tried for disorderly conduct

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — Copies of MCN District Court documents reflect that Ronald Cleghorn, Tulsa District National Council Representative, is identified as a defendant in Case No. CRF 2008-46.

The Plaintiff in the hearing is the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The notification stated that the Arraignment Hearing has been set for Jan. 26, 2009 at 10 a.m. The certificate of mailing was signed and dated for Dec. 23, 2008.

The criminal complaint and information alleged that Cleghorn did, within the jurisdiction of Muscogee (Creek) Nation, on or about Nov. 22, 2008, commit one count of disorderly conduct.

The complaint further described the alleged behavior as "reckless disregard for the public order, engaging in threatening behavior and address with abusive language Mike Flud."

The incident reportedly took place at the Nation's Mound Building. A list of eight witnesses is being summoned in regard to the incident.

Free Creek literature class offered

by Ted Isham
Creek Council House Museum

OKMULGEE — Do you want to broaden your horizons on the wealth and depth of Creek Literature? What is the body of work that comprises Creek Literature anyway? How does the literature inform the actual or perceived worldview of the Muscogee people? Where can this lead us?

If you want to explore these and other interesting questions and have a need to expand your knowledge base of Creek writers, then this class is for you.

A Creek literature and language class will be taught at OSU-Okmulgee and will be sponsored by Emory University of Atlanta Ga., and the Creek Council House Museum.

SEE CLASS - 8

• Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447 •

Muscogee Nation News
STAFF
Manager - Lucas Taylor
Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
Contributing Copy Editor - Kellen Bible
Graphic Design - Carla Brown
Graphic Design - Crystal Lumpkin
Advertising - Ruth Bible
Senior Writer - Angel Ellis
Feature Writer - Gerald Wofford
Sports Writer - Jason Salsman
Reporter - Starla Bush
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Circulation - Wilma Murphy

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News*** unless other copyrights are shown.

Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence. **TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL** (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Vetoes aim to improve health system

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — Tribal Resolution (TR) 08-110 was sent back to the Nation Council as a veto with objections on Jan. 6 2009. Shortly after disapproving previous nominations to the Health System Board of Directors another approval for the nomination of an executive officer for the health system has been returned as a veto. These three resolutions were not approved for a common reason according to the executive branch.

"A new direction is needed for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System," states the objection.

> *"There is a need to appoint a replacement Chief Executive Officer for the MCN Health system."*
> *- Executive Order 09-01*

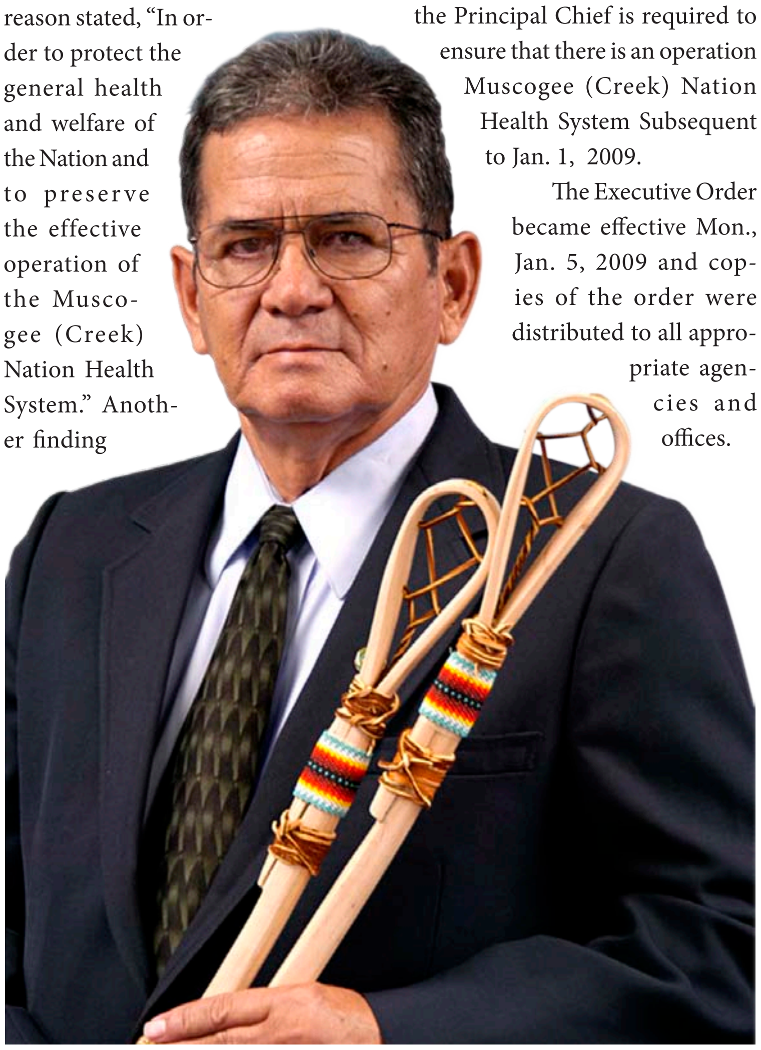
The latest resolution was for the confirmation of Judy Aaron as the Chief Executive Officer for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System. Ellis returned TR 08-110 with objections stating, "The Principal Chief believes that such appointment is not in the best interest of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation," Objection two stated, "It is the judgment of the Executive Branch that a new direction is needed for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System.

The previous veto of the re-nominations of Alef "Nancy" Graham and Dr. Howard Condren had similar objections in Dec. The veto for those two re-nominations was however overturned by the Council. In the override of Dr. Condren's nomination the Nation Council the record reflected that 14 members voted in favor of the overturn and 10 voted to let the veto stand. The re-nomination of Alef "Nancy" Graham veto was over turned by a vote of 13 in favor of the overturn and 11 voting to let the veto stand.

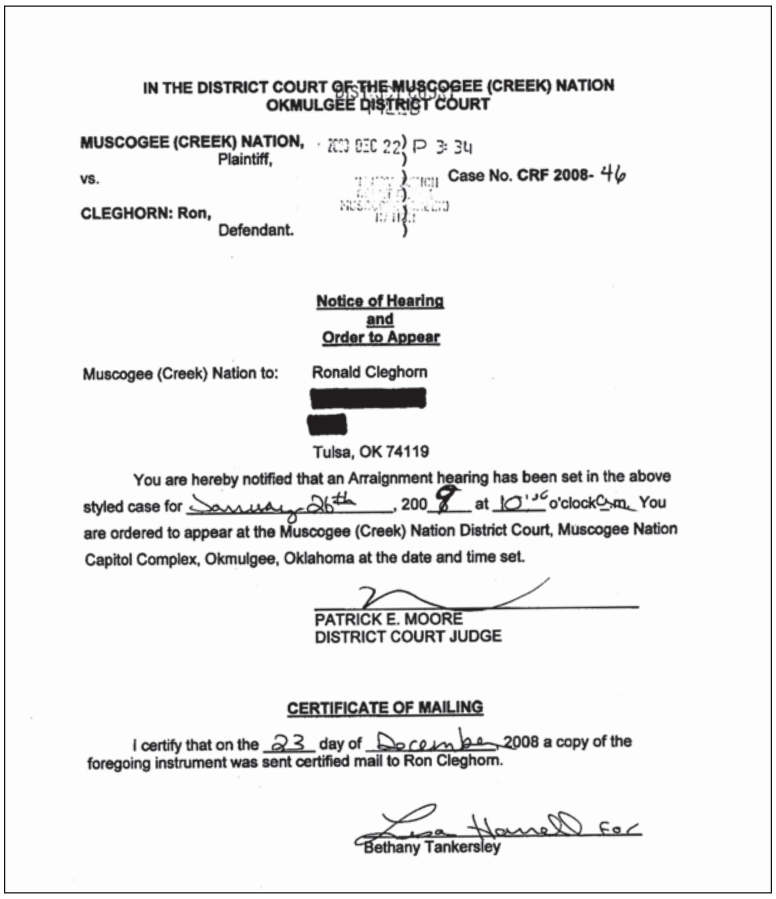
Shortly after the over rides made by the National Council to place the re-nominees back in their former positions for 2009, Executive Order No. 09-01 was released. Stating "Emergency Actions required for Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System," the Principal Chief assumed general oversight authority over the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System. The authority is defined by the order as "including without limitation the ability, as necessary, to make temporary appointments of the Chief Executive Officer and Members of the Board of Directors of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System. The Principal Chief and his designee(s) shall have the authority to take any and all actions deemed necessary and proper to carry out the terms and condition of the foregoing and to ensure the continued effective operation of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation health System in the best interests and for the general health and welfare of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The Executive order further explains the reasons that intervention has become critical. The first reason stated, "In order to protect the general health and welfare of the Nation and to preserve the effective operation of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System." Another finding was "The Principal Chief believes that there is a need to appoint a replacement Chief Executive Officer for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System, as well as to exercise general oversight authority." Lastly, the order stated, "Due to vacancies which exist on the Board of Directors immediate action by the Principal Chief is required to ensure that there is an operation Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System Subsequent to Jan. 1, 2009.

The Executive Order became effective Mon., Jan. 5, 2009 and copies of the order were distributed to all appropriate agencies and offices.



Legal notices



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION,
Plaintiff,
vs.
CLEGHORN: Ron,
Defendant.

2008 DEC 22 P 3:34

Case No. CRF 2008- 46

Notice of Hearing
and
Order to Appear

Muscogee (Creek) Nation to: Ronald Cleghorn
[redacted]
Tulsa, OK 74119

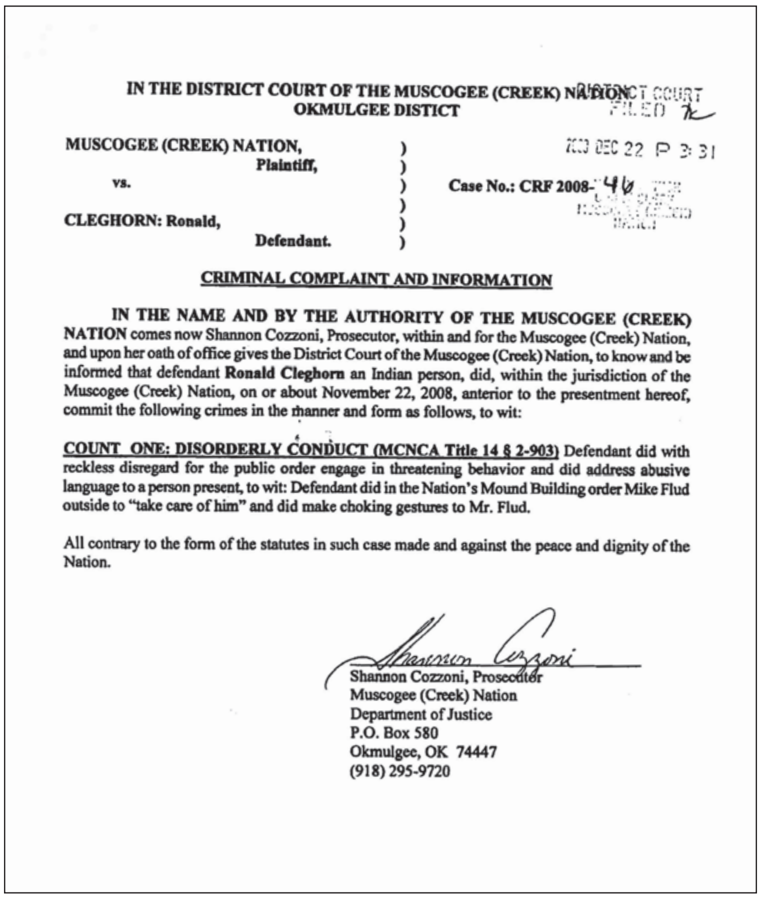
You are hereby notified that an Arraignment hearing has been set in the above styled case for January 26th, 2009 at 10:30 o'clock a.m. You are ordered to appear at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Muscogee Nation Capitol Complex, Okmulgee, Oklahoma at the date and time set.

PATRICK E. MOORE
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that on the 23 day of December 2008 a copy of the foregoing instrument was sent certified mail to Ron Cleghorn.

Lisa Howell for
Bethany Tankersley



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED

2008 DEC 22 P 3:31

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION,
Plaintiff,
vs.
CLEGHORN: Ronald,
Defendant.

Case No.: CRF 2008- 46

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT AND INFORMATION

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION comes now Shannon Cozzoni, Prosecutor, within and for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and upon her oath of office gives the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, to know and be informed that defendant **Ronald Cleghorn** an Indian person, did, within the jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, on or about November 22, 2008, anterior to the presentment hereof, commit the following crimes in the manner and form as follows, to wit:

COUNT ONE: DISORDERLY CONDUCT (MCNCA Title 14 § 2-903) Defendant did with reckless disregard for the public order engage in threatening behavior and did address abusive language to a person present, to wit: Defendant did in the Nation's Mound Building order Mike Flud outside to "take care of him" and did make choking gestures to Mr. Flud.

All contrary to the form of the statutes in such case made and against the peace and dignity of the Nation.

Shannon Cozzoni
Shannon Cozzoni, Prosecutor
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Department of Justice
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 295-9720

Be counted: 2010 U.S. Census recruiting tribal members

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The U.S. Census Bureau is now hiring employees to assist with the planning and implementation of the 2010 Census. The decennial count which aims to get an accurate number of everyone residing in the U.S., including those residing on tribal lands, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Guam as well as the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and American the American Samoa will be conducted beginning in March 2010, but is gearing up now for the task at hand.

The U.S. Constitution requires a national census every 10 years. This includes citizens and non-citizens of all ages, tribes, races, and ethnic groups. This year's theme is "It's in our hands" and efforts have begun to ensure the number of Native Americans is more accurate than in years past.

It is vital that the 2010 Census have an accurate count of tribal nations and American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) communities. Every year, more than $300 billion in federal and state funds are allocated to tribes and states and communities based on census data. That's more than $3 trillion over a 10-year period.

Susan Arkeketa with the Census office out of Tulsa, Okla., has been working with communities throughout the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in order to let the Native population know how important it is to be counted in the upcoming census.

"Right now we are working with Creek Nation and we are needing testing sites within the local communities. There have already been a couple of community centers who have volunteered like the Tulsa Creek Indian Community has already conducted some testing, but the emphasis is on recruitment and jobs. There are potential jobs for people out there who meet the qualifications," Arkeketa said.

The 2010 Census will shape the future of tribal communities, define voices in Congress and impact economic development and other opportunities for tribal citizens.

"2010 seems like a long way away, but really for Census, it's coming up quick. Operations have begun and one of the current things we're doing is we're heavily recruiting in the state for census workers. We're going to be going out and checking and making sure addresses are correct. That process is ongoing and we need lots of workers out in the field to do just that," Arkeketa said.

Federal and state agencies depend on census data to determine funding allocations for tribal programs and the information may also assist tribal leaders in their planning decision about economic development projects and community service programs. Census data guide local decision makers in important community and tribal planning efforts, including decisions such as where to build child-care facilities, community centers, roads, and schools.

Tribal governments and planners rely on census data to determine where there is a need for social services. This simple, short questionnaire takes just a few minutes to complete and return by mail or to a census taker. In the past there have been challenges in obtaining a full accounting of the American Indian and Alaskan Native population on tribal lands.

Census jobs provide flexible hours, competitive pay and reimbursement for applicable mileage. Areas of skill to be tested for census workers include clerical abilities, reading comprehension, number skills, interpretation of information and evaluation of alternatives along with organizational skills.

Applicants should bring a form of identification such as a driver's license, social security card or Native American enrollment card to the testing site. Local sites will be available for testing, with information being released as it becomes available. Informational brochures are also available in the Community Research and Development office on the main campus of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Help your community have a successful 2010 Census. For more information, please call 1-866-861-2010.

Commission recalls Constitutional Amendment A67

Media Release
MCN Constitutional Commission

OKMULGEE — During the process of developing a ballot for a Constitutional Referendum Election as required by the Constitution, it became apparent to the Constitutional Amendment Commission certain proposed amendments unintentionally would void and remove critical constitutional language absolutely required for the continued function of this government. Proposed Amendment A67 therefore was not certified to the Principal Chief for submission to the voters.

The United States Congress enacted The Federal Indian Civil Rights Act, 25 United States Code § 1302 (8). This federal law imposes upon Indian tribes the requirement of equal protection of the laws. Equal protection requires that persons similarly situated be treated alike under the law.

United States federal courts have held that the equal protection and due process clauses of the Indian Civil Rights Act apply to tribal elections. Tribal citizens have brought suit claiming the tribal council was malapportioned and that they were under represented on the tribal council because the malapportionment violated the one-man, one-vote principal and denied them equal protection of the laws as guaranteed by the Indian Civil Rights Act.

Proposed Constitutional Amendment A67 purports to establish 16 National Council seats comprised of two representatives per district, a scheme that does not provide equal representation based on district populations to all citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The proposed amendment does not establish any method of apportionment to assure equal representation between districts. Districts with small populations are allocated the same number of representatives as the heavily populated districts. The end result is districts with larger populations are not equally represented in comparison to the smaller districts, which is not consistent with notions of equal protection of the laws as guaranteed by the Indian Civil Rights Act.

Proposed amendment A67 does not establish a means of apportionment to assure equal protection to all members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and is fatally flawed. Two representatives for each district, regardless of population, results in an imbalance in representation.

Reducing the size of the National Council may be accomplished if there is a system of reapportionment or redistricting employed which would guarantee equal representation for all citizens.

Further, proposed amendment A67, eliminates the following current constitutional language:

(a) Each representative shall be elected by a vote of the district and shall hold office four (4) years. These terms of office shall be staggered to ensure that one-half of the Council stands for election every two (2) years. Beginning with the first election after this amendment is approved, those persons filing for B and D Council seats shall serve for a period of two (2) years and those persons filing for A, C and E Council seats shall serve for a period of four (4) years. The B and D seats will stand for election in two (2) years at which time the B and D seats shall commence a four -year term.

(b) Each representative shall be a legal resident of his/her district for one full calendar year, prior to filing for office and shall be required to be an actual full time resident within that district for the term of office. When the representative ceases to be an actual resident of the district, they disqualify themselves as a representative of that district.

(c) No person shall be a representative who has not attained the age of eighteen (18) and hold full citizenship nor has a felony conviction within the past ten (10) years as of date of filing for candidacy, in a court of competent jurisdiction.

(d) The Muscogee (Creek) National Council shall elect from their numbers a Speaker, who shall preside over the Muscogee (Creek) National Council but shall have no vote unless the National Council be equally divided, and they shall choose a Second Speaker, who shall preside in the absence of the Speaker. Without subsection (a), (b), (c) and (d) there would be no constitutional provisions for setting National Council terms of office, staggering of terms of office,

National Council residency requirements, National Council age requirement, National Council full citizenship requirement, felony prohibition, election of Speaker and Second Speaker.

Committee Meetings

Business / Governmental
Steve Bruner - Chairman
Pete Beaver - Vice-Chair
Larry Cahwee
Selina Jayne-Dornan
David Nichols
Travis Scott
Paula Willits

Meetings: Thursday prior to Planning Session at 6 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Tribal Affairs
Bill S. Fife - Chairman
Sam Alexander - Vice-Chair
David Hill
Adam Jones
Eddie LaGrone
Carmin Tecumseh

Meetings: Third Tuesday at 5:30 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Human Development
Johnnie Greene - Chairman
Darrell Proctor - Vice Chair
Shirlene Ade
Ron Cleghorn
James Jennings
Keeper Johnson

Meetings: 1st Monday at 7 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Community Services / Cultural
Cherrah Quiett - Chairman
Roger Barnett- Vice Chair
Terrie Anderson
Robert Hufft
Kara Medina
Lena Wind

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Community Calendar

•Yardeka hosts economic development lecture

YARDEKA – The Yardeka Indian Community will host a community economic development training session on Sat., Jan. 24 at the Yardeka Indian Community Center.

The meeting will begin at 10 a.m., and last through the afternoon at 2 p.m. All community members are invited to attend.

Lunch will be provided by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Research and Development Office.

For more information, please contact Community Research and Development (918) 732 - 7963.

•Tulsa Indian Art Festival looking for volunteers

TULSA – The Tulsa Indian Art Festival will be held Feb. 13th, 14th and 15th this year at the new Bixby Spirit Bank Center just east of Memorial on 104th.

It will be a great facility with free parking, free admission and a free signed poster for all volunteers. It is a great opportunity to enjoy story-telling, music, dance, an auction and Indian tacos and fry bread.

The arts and crafts include well known artists such as featured artist, Jon Tiger along with young adult art, sculpture, painting, jewelry and much more.

Volunteers are needed for various aspects and times of the event. Fore more information, contact Linda McClain by e-mail at mcclaintulsa@aol.com or call (918) 299-6967.

Creek veteran speaks on Operation Iraqi Freedom

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

CHECOTAH — Creek citizen Kellen Bible, a First Lieutenant in the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve, spoke at the monthly Checotah Chamber of Commerce luncheon held on Tues., Jan. 13.

As a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), Bible spoke about his experience with building beneficial partnerships between U.S. and Iraqi forces.

According to Bible, American troops can provide useful training for the Iraqis, allowing them a greater opportunity for success after the U.S. presence has left the country.

"The Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines compose various transition teams to 'advise, mentor, and train' Iraqi Army soldiers and Iraqi Policemen," Bible said.

The Marines stationed at Al Asad, Iraq have partnered with the 7th Iraqi Army Infantry Division at Camp Mejid in order to train them in basic areas of logistics including health services, weapons maintenance, bulk fuel operations, motor transportation maintenance and food services. Despite some obstacles with communication, Bible asserts there is progress being made by working together.

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

U. S. Marine Corps., First Lieutenant Kellen Bible spoke to the Checotah Chamber of Commerce on the benefits of building partnerships with Iraqi forces

"The goal was to replace our Marines with Iraqi counterparts so that we didn't have to send over any of our guys to be in harm's way and at the same time, we gave ownership back to the Iraqis. We're starting to get away from being the trainers for the Iraqis and now becoming mentors and advisors to them," Bible stated.

By enabling the Iraqi forces to help themselves, U.S. forces involved in Operation Iraqi Freedom may ultimately benefit both countries. "We want to support the foundation of the Iraqi government where they have democracy and freedom," Bible said.

Oklahoma City Muscogee Association hosts annual Christmas dinner

by Marsha Chibitty
Oklahoma City Muscogee Association

OKLAHOMA CITY — The OCMA (Oklahoma City Muscogee Association) held their Annual Christmas Dinner on Dec. 5, 2008. The event was held at Glorieta Baptist Church in Oklahoma City.

The attendance to this event by children, adults and elders was overwhelming this year. The children had a great time sitting on Santa's lap and telling him what they wanted for Christmas. After the great meal, Christmas carols were sung by all.

Special guests included Muscogee (Creek) National Council Representatives Ron Cleghorn, Shirlene Ade, and Kara Medina. The Citizenship Board was present to enroll new tribal members. Representatives of the Duck Creek Community were also in attendance. They have been great supporters of the OCMA.

The OCMA wanted to show their appreciation to the Duck Creek Community by presenting to them a one-of-a-kind piece of pottery made by tribal member and renowned potter, Scott Roberts, who along with, Allen Yargee, OCMA Chairman and Tresa Gouge, Vice Chair, made the presentation.

Photo courtesy of Marsha Chibitty

The Oklahoma City Muscogee Association hosted their annual Christmas dinner at Glorieta Baptist Church where members of the Muscogee National Council and Duck Creek Indian Community members gathered to celebrate the season. Pictured left to right are Allen Yargee, Cecil Harry and Scott Roberts.

Mvto to Event Coordinator, Mike Tiger. Because of his hard work and help from his committee, everyone left this year's event with a good meal, good fellowship and thoughts of a Merry Christmas.

The 35th annual Creek Festival goes Green

by Brian On-The-Hill
MCN Tourism and Recreation

OKMULGEE — The 35th Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival is proud to announce its efforts to go Green in 2009. Several recycling receptacles will be placed in various locations throughout the Claude Cox Omniplex in Okmulgee to collect aluminum cans and plastic bottles.

Look for the receptacles of different colors in addition to signs informing visitors of which containers to place recyclable materials in. As usual, regular trash receptacles will also be provided for all other waste products.

Recycling is just one way to help reduce waste that is taking up space in landfills. Much of the garbage produced has the potential to be recycled, preventing the waste of potentially useful materials. We can all make conscious efforts to reduce the consumption of Earth's natural resources and minimize air and water pollution. Choosing not to recycle may not affect us immediately, but it will affect the people that will call us their ancestors.

Join in the effort. Keep Native Land Clean, Go Green!

Reintegration Program moves forward

by Joshua Slane
MNN Reporter

MNN/*Joshua Slane*

The Reintegration Department holds their 2008 High Honors Harvard University Honoring Nations Award and is currently a finalist for the Ash Institute Democratic Governance award for 2009.

HENRYETTA – The Executive Branch of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation offers many services to its citizens, but not all citizens have been able to receive help effectively. One population that has been hard to help is people recently released from prison. As a result of this inadequacy, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis authorized, in September 2004, the development of a department specifically designed to help Creek citizens who fall into these rare assistance circumstances.

In March 2005, the program was initially staffed under the Health Department in the Behavioral Health section. However, Chief Ellis later restructured the program within the Executive Branch, in October 2007, and placed it under the Human Development Department where it has successfully remained.

Reintegration is the process of integrating people back into local society as a result of dislocation due to such means as incarceration or treatment. Long terms of incarceration can cause some citizens to become more adapted to life in prison than to daily activity within a local community. The reintegration process involves placing recently-released citizens into society and helping them adjust to a stable lifestyle.

The Reintegration Program is available for Muscogee (Creek) enrolled citizens beginning up to 18 months prior to institutional release and is still available up to two years after release. The Reintegration staff is able to provide seminars, on location at various prisons, about the services they offer and incorporate the "12 Steps of the Medicine Wheel," which is a Native American approach to conquering substance addiction. Members of the Reintegration staff may also make recommendations to parole boards; historically, an estimated 90 percent of the participants of the program have been released as a result of the guidance provided by the staff.

Upon release from prison, the Reintegration Program offers citizens a hygiene pack which includes common items such as soap, shampoo, razors and shaving cream. Program participants are also provided with reintegration T-shirts and a $250 clothing allowance.

Reintegration staff members are able to search for suitable housing and assist with routine bills such as monthly rent and a security deposit for a few months while the citizen builds a stable foundation in the community. Additional services provided include developing interviewing skills, computer skills, and constructing résumés.

As of January 2009, the Reintegration Program has served over 400 people. Approximately 97.1 percent of the program participants have not become habitual re-offenders compared to the nation-wide average of 33 percent.

In addition to their amazing numbers of successful reintegrations the Reintegration Program has won a number of awards, including: 2008 High Honors Harvard University Honoring Nations, 2008 Nominated Oklahoma Department of Corrections Volunteers of the Year, 2008 interviewed by *In-Sites magazine*, an online magazine by Office of Justice Programs. They have also won the float competition at the Creek Nation Festival Parade for the past two years. In 2009, the program is a finalist in the Ash Institute Democratic Governance award.

• MCN Social Services offers heating assistance

TULSA—The Social Services Department offers two programs in the winter for heating assistance. We will continue to take applications through March 31, 2009, or until funds are exhausted.

LIHEAP (Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program) is available for low-income families residing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation service boundaries. Tribal Energy is available for elders (55 and older) or those receiving disability benefits through the Social Security Administration.

Applicants may choose to apply by several ways including: In person there is no appointment is necessary and clients will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis at 2971 N. Wood Drive, by mail – please mail all documents to: MCN Social Services, Attn: LIHEAP or Tribal Energy, PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Fax to (918) 759-9988 and include a cover sheet addressed to LIHEAP or Tribal Energy. In your community, please bring all your documents to the field site. A Social Services caseworker is available every month in chartered communities between 9:30 and 11a.m., on specified days.

Those who wish to apply should provide: tribal cards and Social Security cards for everyone in the household, gas bill, propane vendor, wood vendor (Electric bill only if you are total electric), copies of all income sources, phone number, authorization for Social Services to sign the application (if mailing or faxing), non-duplication statement (detailing any assistance received in the past 12 months from any agency with utilities, and/or deposits.

Allow at least 45 days for processing and contact Social Services at (918) 759 - 2334 for additional information.

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Tama Ray Cook

STILLWATER — Tama Ray Cook graduated from Oklahoma State University on Dec. 13, 2008.

She graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree in Management.

She is the daughter of Dale and Regina Cook.

Maternal grandparents are Tommy and Carolyn Jones.

Paternal grandparents are Homer and Anna Cook.

Maternal great grandparents are the late Adam and Hattie Jones.

Paternal great grandparents are Cecil and Ruby James.

She is of the Bear Clan and the Coweta Tribal Town.

Ricardo Cullen Johnson

OKLAHOMA CITY — Ricardo Cullen Johnson is an 11th grader at Dove Science Academy in Oklahoma City. He recently was placed on the Honor Roll with a GPA of 3.54.

He is the son of Marvin E. Johnson, Jr. He is the great grandson of the late Jeanetta Barnett Johnson.

On May 8, 2008 he earned an Oklahoma County tuition grant sponsored by Langston University for his outstanding performance on the 2008 Oklahoma Heritage Scholarship Competition.

BIRTHDAYS

Mahiya Ramirez

TULSA — Mihya Serena Ramirez celebrated her sixth birthday with a Hannah Montana party on Dec 13.

She is the daughter of Luis and Sheila Ramirez and a sister to Daniel Ramirez and Robert Ramirez.

Her maternal Grandparents are Amos and Pauline Rabbit.

Paternal grandparents are Jose and Carmen Ramirez.

She attends Union City Christian Academy and is of the Racoon Clan and the Nuyaka Tribal Town.

Kiya Benjamin Haney-Powell

OKMULGEE — Kiya Benjamin Haney-Powell celebrated his fourth birthday with a Transformers party on Dec 9.

He is the son if Cameron Powell and Jamie Haney and a brother to TaKoma Waggnor.

Maternal grandparents are Willie, Sr. and Kathy Haney.

Paternal grandparents are Jerry and Karen Powell.

Maternal great grandparents the late Woodrow and the late Hattie Haney and the late Wesley, Sr. and the late Joan Dunn.

Paternal great grandparents are the late Benjamin and Christine Harjo and Arthur Powell and Mary Kelly.

He is of the Bear Clan.

BIRTHS

William Allan Bevenue Jr.

MIRAMAR, Fla., — William Allan Bevenue, Jr. was born on Oct. 18, at the Miramar Regional Hospital.

He weighted six pounds six ounces and was 18 and a half inches in length.

He is the son of William and Sheila Bevenue.

His siblings are Levi, Sabre, and Trinity.

Grandparents are Alfred and Bobbie Bevenue.

Great grand parents are Joe Don and Judy Billie.

He is of the Bear Clan.

Evan Jacob Faulk

TULSA — Evan Jacob Faulk was born on Oct. 3 at St. Francis Hospital.

He weighted seven pounds 12 ounces and was 20 inches in length.

He is the son of Justin and Samantha Faulk.

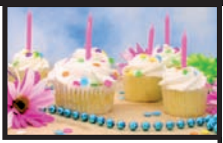
Grandparents are Joe and Virginia Rangel and Mark and Sheralynn Faulk.

Great grandparents are the late Leonard and Mary Bevenue, the late Mary Mitchell, Ted and Joan Braucht, the late Bill Faulk and Mainne Faulk.

He is of the Bird Clan.

Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:



Roll Number:__________________

Phone Number: (___)__________

Name: ____________________________________

Address:___________________________________

Date of Birth: _______________________________

Theme of the party:___________________________

Parents: _____________________________________

Siblings: ____________________________________

Maternal and Paternal grandparents:

____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:

____

School: ______________________________________

Clan: ____

Tribal Town:__________________________________

Birth:

Roll Number:__________________

Phone Number: (___)__________

Name: ____________________________________

Address:___________________________________

Date of Birth: _______________________________

Name of Hospital: ____________________________

Weight: ______ **pounds** ______ **ounces**______**inches**

Parents: _____________________________________

Siblings: ____________________________________

Maternal and Paternal grandparents:

____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:

____

Clan: ____

Tribal Town:__________________________________

Announcements:

Roll Number:__________________

Phone Number: (___)__________

Name: ____________________________________

Address:___________________________________

Parents: _____________________________________

Siblings: ____________________________________

Maternal and Paternal grandparents:

____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:

____

Clan: ____

Tribal Town:__________________________________

Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Contact Starla Bush by phone at (918) 732 - 7636 or by Email at SBush@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Muscogee citizen remembered for his love of family, tribe, country and Indian sports

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Reporter

OKMULGEE — This story isn't necessarily about sports, but pays tribute to someone that certainly enjoyed both watching and competing in sports. Doctor Harry Long, who was also a reverend, passed away last month at the age of 87. Long was a unique Muscogee minister and mentor who witnessed the tribe develop immensely during the 20th century.

Long, like so many Indian children of his generation, grew up in a boarding school. While attending Bacone College during the 1920s, Long participated in both football and track. He often recalled fond memories of the "good" Indian athletes and boxing teams he saw as a student.

While America was engaged in World War II, Long responded to the call of duty and enlisted in the United States Marines Corps. As a young Marine, Long would see combat action in the Pacific and would experience some of the bloodiest battles in the war to include the Battle of Iwo Jima.

MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Harry Long (above) lived a fulfilling and prosperous life and was a true blessing to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Long lived at a time when the tribe experienced historical changes. Long preached throughout Indian country and served as a missionary. It is not an exaggeration to say that the Reverend, and Doctor, Harry Long was the Creek Nation's official minister.

A few years ago, Reverend Long shared a story with me about his time before he left for the Marines. He said that it was a week before he was to report for camp. His family knew that he would be leaving soon, but no one said anything special to him or treated him any different that week. Long said that he grew up in a family that was reserved and did not always show their feelings. This didn't really bother him. Actually, he was more worried about his parents, brothers, and sister and concerned that they would be all right while he was gone.

Finally, the morning came that Long had to leave. He had to get up early and walk into town to catch a bus. He got ready quietly, his bag was packed, and he walked to the screen door and opened it slowly so the noise wouldn't wake anyone. The sun would be coming up in a few minutes. He took one look around the house and then walked out. The dirt road from the house led to the main road. The sun was just starting to come up now. As Long walked on that road, it began to hit him that his life was really going to change now, and if he should ever make it back home, things would never be the same as before. As he got closer to the main road, he turned around to look one more time at the old house. This time, his mother was standing on the porch, and looking at him. It was enough for him to know that he was loved by his family,… hopefully the tribe let him know as well.

OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

Is Sam Bradford's Heisman win the single greatest moment in Native American sports history?

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

What a question! To give the proper answer to this can be so broad and even complicated.

One can't help but go back and begin to remember all the unique history of Native American athletic history to begin to search for this.

Of course, the man considered the greatest athlete of the last century-Jim Thorpe, was of the Sac and Fox tribe. Perhaps not only his gold medals in the decathlon and pentathlon in the 1912 Stockholm Olympic games, his appointment as the first President of the National Football League, his professional baseball playing days with the New York Giants, and even his winning a ballroom dance championship proved his great sports lineage.

But his time, to say the least, has passed, in three years his historic accomplishments at Stockholm will be a hundred years old. No one is alive that remembers being there. So in that sense, answering this question can be more like, how far back in history do you go?

Indian country has certainly embraced Bradford, and whether he is prepared for it or not, and can trace back his Indigenous heritage or not, Native Americans are going to want to connect with him and identify him as one of their own. So in that sense, if you ask someone today, who may not know, or care, about the great history of Native American athletes, this young man from Oklahoma City who states that he is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma and his winning of the 2008 Heisman Trophy may very well be the greatest single moment in Native American sports history. Lets hope he adds to it like Thorpe.

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

Although it was a nice moment for modern-day Native youngsters to have as a source of inspiration, it is definitely not the greatest. One part of me leans toward the Bradford story, but I just can't give it that acclaim. One, there are too many false claims out there that Bradford was the first Native American to win the Heisman Trophy. Sam wasn't even the first from OU, that title went to Mr. Billy Vessels, who had even more Indian ancestry than Slingin' Sam. And two, there are so many more out there that I think a de-facto beauty pageant (which the Heisman Trophy and all its hoopla have become) does not deserve to take the cake. I have to hand it to my boy G-Woff over there. Nobody will ever, EVER, be able to take away from the accomplishments of Jim Thorpe and his unbelievable feats on the gridiron and in so many other sports. But my moment is one that will be forever remembered in sports history as "The Kick." It comes to us courtesy of an Oglala Sioux from the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation named Billy Mills. Mills excelled in track at Haskell Indian Nations University before moving on to stardom at the University of Kansas. But it was the final kick in the 10,000 meter run at the 1964 Tokyo Olympics where Mills would put his stamp on history. Sprinting past world-record holder Ron Clarke at the finish, Mills became just the second Native American to win an Olympic gold medal and the first American to win the 10,000 meter event. To this day, it is still considered by many to be the greatest upset in the history of the Olympic Games.

Sports Calendar

• Native Sports Rush set for debut

OKMULGEE — The Native Sports Rush, a 30-minute monthly showcase of sports from an Indian perspective, debuts on Tulsa's CW 12/19 on Jan. 31, at 2 p.m.

The show, the first of it's kind in the state of Oklahoma, will feature a roundtable discussion of Native sports journalists coupled with packaged stories on Indian sports stars of the past, present and future.

Hosting the show will be Muscogee Nation News Sports Reporter Jason Salsman (Muscogee), along with Gerald Wofford (Cherokee), and the President of the Native American Boxing Commission. Joining as analysts will be Brent Cahwee, co-creator of the popular ndnsports.com web site, and Eric Bailey who serves as Beat Writer at the Tulsa World covering Tulsa Golden Hurricane Athletics.

"We're really excited about this opportunity to tell our side of the story in the sports world," said Salsman, who serves as the show's producer.

Salsman noted that the show will definitely be unique with a human interest twist on most of the stories and will highlight rising Native athletes on the horizon of super-stardom. According to Salsman, the show will not only concentrate on current competition, but intends to honor the Native athletes that created a legacy of success in Indian Country.

"It will be nice to give proper recognition to guys like Allie Reynolds and Jack Jacobs. Guys that maybe never got the appreciation that their talents deserved when they were still with us."

The show will make its introduction on the CW Network (Tulsa 12/19) on Jan. 31, at 2 p.m. Tune in for The Native Sports Rush debut of "It's Game Time."

Contact Gerald Wofford by phone at (918) 732 - 7635 or by e-mail at GWofford@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Cultural Calendar

• National Museum of the American Indian internships available

WASHINGTON, D.C., — The National Museum of the American Indian at the Smithsonian is offering internship opportunities for summer, spring, fall and winter.

Internships are available for Native American students who may be placed in a variety of departments at the George Gustav Heye Center in New York City, the Mall Museum in Washington, D.C., or the Cultural Resources Center in Suitland, Md.

Areas of study include research, archives, photography, exhibits and education (such as developing curriculum and working with school groups who tour through the museum).

The deadline for Summer 2009 internships will be Fri., Feb. 6, 2009. For more information, please contact Jill Norwood at (301) 238-1541 or e-mail her norwoodj@si.edu. Applications are also available online at www.AmericanIndian.si.edu. Click on "outreach" then "Internships."

• Call to Native craftsmen for Creek Festival 2009

OKMULGEE — Tourism and Recreation would like to extend an invitation to all artisans in the chartered Creek communities to participate in the 2009 Festival.

If you or someone you know is an artist or craftsman, consider purchasing a 15'x20' booth space at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival in June 2009.

For more information, contact Brian On-The-Hill in Tourism and Recreation at Muscogee (Creek) Nation at (918) 732-7993 by early January 2009 to be put on the mailing list to receive booth applications in February 2009. Deadline for submission of applications is 5 p.m. Mon., March 30, 2009.

MCN Head Start celebrates 30 years of child care

MNN/*Starla Bush*

Pictured above from left to right (top row) are Susanna Barnett and J.B. Fish. Seated are Betty Smith, Danetta Tate, Barbara O'Neil and Pat Wind. The current staff of the Head Start program celebrated 30 years of service with the Nation on Fri., Jan. 9, 2009.

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start program celebrated 30 years of operation on Fri., Jan. 9, where past and present employees were recognized for their service, dedication and commitment to the program.

Executive Director Claude Sumner recounted his older brother reading stories of "Spot" and "Jane" in the third grade. When he was three years old, Claude remembers picking up the ability to read, which gave him a head start. "You're [head start workers] the secret, probably, to how they view the future in education, growth and personal development," Sumner stated.

Sumner explained that all the hard work from the employees has paid off for the tribe. "You're the reason, in 30 years, there has been a lot of people come through this Nation and get that head start," Sumner said.

Okmulgee opens new smoke shop

Media Release
Okmulgee Indian Community

OKMULGEE — The new Okmulgee Indian Community smoke shop is tentatively scheduled to open for business on Mon., Feb. 2, 2009.

Located south of Okmulgee on the corner of Highway 75 and 36th St., the new shop will be drive-thru accessible and along with tobacco products, will offer convenience store items such as snack foods and hot/cold beverages.

Next door to the facility will a tourism kiosk and gift shop featuring Native-made arts and crafts. Tourists arriving in Okmulgee will be able to learn about Creek Nation and its activities. As a member of the Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce, information about the city of Okmulgee will also be available.

The Okmulgee Indian Community was chartered in Dec. 1983 and has operated the old smoke shop on Wood Drive for 15 years when they originally leased the building from the Red Rooster Convenience Store.

Class

Continued from 1

The class will begin on Thurs. Jan. 15 at 12 noon for one hour on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the Spring 2009 semester. Distance learning utilizing interactive internet TV at the OSU-Okmulgee campus is the method of delivery for this class.

This class is a collaboration between the Creek Council House Museum, Emory University and the IT department of OSU-Okmulgee. Craig Womack, Creek citizen and former professor at the University of Oklahoma, will teach the class. He is now a professor in the English department at Emory University in Atlanta.

Womack has taught classes on Creek Literature while at OU, but this represents his first class on Creek writings from the homelands. This brings out the intriguing and monumental aspect of this class, that of our homelands once again playing host to the culture and language that is indigenous to the area, the Mvskokvlke. This class can also be the bridge between the two areas of Creek people, those who were left behind and those who were forced to leave. The class is part of newly formed efforts to re-discover aboriginal inhabitants and civilizations.

The class will be giving some basic language instruction to help discuss some of the various language and cultural aspects of various authors. Topics covered will include the Earnest Gouge stories, GW Grayson and the Fus Fixico letters by Alex Posey. In March, the various migration legends and some discussion on various church writings will be reviewed. Betty Mae Jumper and short writings from other authors along with the differences between the oral tradition and the written form will also be discussed. Storytelling, oratory, religious and songs are some of the other forms which will be looked at.

Once again, the schedule for this Spring semester will be from 12 noon until 1:05 p.m.., on Tues. and Thurs., beginning Jan. 15. We will be meeting in room 226 of the Reynolds Technology building on the Okmulgee campus.

There will be no cost to attend, but please come prepared to discuss the topic at hand according, to the syllabus schedule. For a copy of the syllabus, please contact Ted Isham at the Creek Council House Museum at (918) 756-2324 or by e-mail at curator@sbcglobal.net.

Cuko Hvmecvlke Family Members

Y	G	G	T	Y	Z	A	P	G	H	Y	Y	T	J	B
M	V	I	T	P	Z	N	S	R	O	H	K	T	M	H
F	B	U	Y	A	R	V	K	Y	K	P	U	C	A	C
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Okmulgee Community opens new smoke shop

GAMING - A5

2009 Service Awards

PROGRAMS/NOTICES - A7

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

FEBRUARY 2009
Volume 39, Issue 2
SEMI-MONTHLY

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From the Nation's Capitol...

• Citizens attend inaugural activities for 44th President

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Photo courtesy of Robert Holden

Pictured above is a shot of the U.S. Capitol Building at the inauguration ceremonies, as captured by Deputy Director of the National Museum of the American Indian and member of the Choctaw Nation who attended many of the events throughout the week.

HAVING AN INAUGURAL BALL

Several Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens were present for the Inauguration of the 44th President of the United States of America. As the very first minority to ever hold the office, Barack Hussein Obama was sworn in to office on Tues., Jan, 20, 2009.

Many Native Americans watched the historic event from their own homes and offices, on televisions and computers here in Okla. A lucky few, however, got the opportunity to be a part of the crowded excitement as over 2 million people flooded Washington, D.C., to witness history in the making.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen and National Council Rep. Cherrah Quiett attended the week's events along with MNN Cultural Reporter Ruth Bible. The ladies also met up with a host of other representatives from tribes across the Nation at the American Indian Society's 12th Annual Inaugural Ball.

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

State of the Nation Address

• Nation recognizes the life and service of George Almirigi

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — State of the Nation reflected a positive future for MCN, and honored the hard work and lives of those who nurtured the nation along the way. Chief Supreme Court Justice Jonodev Chaudhuri presented an award to Shirley Almirigi during the 2009 State of the Nation Address.

Principal Chief, A.D. Ellis, provided insight to the accomplishments of the last year, as well as prospects for the future. In spite of the depressing state of the United State's economy, the message at the State of the Nation was encouraging for the tribe.

While progress is being hindered for many tribes across the country, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has been able to trudge on. After recently securing approximately 200 million dollars to fund the new casino in Tulsa, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation continues to grow.

"That is how good of shape this nation is in, not many tribes can do that right now," said Chief Ellis. He credited the unity of the leaders for the many successes.

Ellis spoke about many of the valuable programs and their successes throughout the course of last year. Among those were Reintegration, Transit, Housing, Food Distribution, Trade and Commerce, JOM, Lighthorse, Legal Services, College of the Muscogee Nation, Veterans Program and the Hanna Farms.

MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Pictured above from left to right are Chief Supreme Court Justice Jonodev Chaudhuri presenting an award to Shirley Almirigi during the 2009 State of the Nation Address. Also pictured are Supreme Court Justice Amos McNac and Speaker Thomas Yahola (seated).

Reintegration received the top honor of Best New Program in America from Harvard. The program was chosen over 250 other tribal programs including some from other countries.

Ellis compared the numbers for the Housing Authority at present to the previous board-managed performance. In the last three years, there were 489 homes built. Comparatively, that amounts to a 700-percent increase while under the management of the current administration.

Much of the Nation is growing and expanding, as Ellis pointed out. The College of the Muscogee Nation has funding secured to build its first facility. Major projects are taking place in Wetumka, Transit served 24,650 passengers last year, Legal Services has out-grown its location, and JOM is serving some 16,500 students in 45 different public schools.

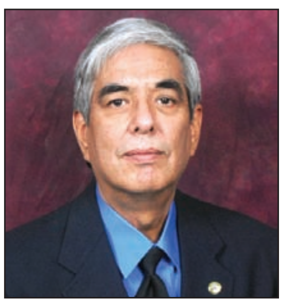
Ellis also pointed out some important needs of the Nation. "We need to reach out to all citizens through health care and education," said Ellis. He also expressed his admiration for tribes who have been successful in creating jobs and a desire for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to do the same.

Jury trial scheduled for Cleghorn conduct case

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE—Tulsa District National Council Representative Ronald Cleghorn was present at the Mvskoke Nation District Court on Mon., Jan. 26 for his arraignment hearing for original case no., CRF 2008-46.

Cleghorn is being charged with one count of disorderly conduct after alledgedly "engaging in threatening behavior" according to court documents. The original case was filed as a felony, however, it was dismissed by the MCN District Court upon request by the Attorney General's office to be replaced by a criminal misdemeanor charge.



"Defendant did with reckless regard for the public order engage in threatening behavior,"
- CRF 2008 - 46
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court

SEE CLEGHORN - A4

Building the 'Pride of Mvskoke Nation' Marching Band

by Lee Longhorn-Bucktrot
Pride of Mvskoke Nation Marching Band

NORMAN—Hersce!!! 'Stonko?? Lee Longhorn cvhocefket os. Ecovlke omis. Cvckvlket Alvin mon Patsy Bucktrot. Oce Vpofv vm etvlwat os. University of Oklahoma mvhakv-cuko ariyet os. Tenor Saxophone hayecis.

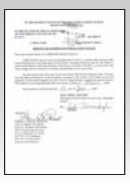
My name is Lee Longhorn-Bucktrot. My parents are Alvin and Patsy Bucktrot. I am a junior at the University of Oklahoma where I study Native American Studies and Journalism with a minor in Anthropology. I am a three year consecutive member of the "Pride of Oklahoma" Marching Band and this past year served as a section leader for the saxophone section.

This letter is to mark my formal return as the music director for the 2009 "Pride of Mvskoke Nation" Marching Band.

SEE MASCOT - A4

EXECUTIVE A2

Notice: Christina R. Gould



TRIBAL COUNCIL A3

National Council minutes

LEGISLATIVE A4

Pickens slated for 22nd annual Sovereignty Symposium

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Revis completes Morris K. Udall Foundation congressional internship

Communications Department - P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447

Muscogee Nation News
STAFF
Manager - Lucas Taylor
Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
Contributing Copy Editor - Kellen Bible
Senior Writer - Angel Ellis
Graphic Design - Carla Brown
Graphic Design - Tyler Roberds
Advertising - Ruth Bible
Feature Writer - Gerald Wofford
Sports Writer - Jason Salsman
Reporter - Starla Bush
Reporter - Joshua Slane
Reporter - Jennifer Taryole
Circulation - Wilma Murphy

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Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

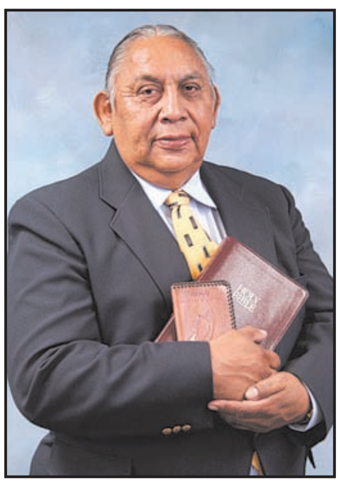
TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

From the Office of the Second Chief

Second Opinion

Submitted Jan. 16, 2009

There are several citizens asking for assistance, citizens needing as much as fourteen-hundred dollars for utility bills. The two-hundred dollars we could provide assistance with is now down to one-hundred dollars. We have requested more money and the answer is no, with no money there is no help. We realize there is a crisis many citizens are being laid off. Citizens need to write the council and ask for more money for assistance.


Second Chief Berryhill

The accusation of this office in assisting citizens to further career opportunities is not the case. We are not here as politicians we are here to serve our citizens and nothing more.

This is an excerpt from the book "The Road to Disappearance: A History of the Creek Indians" by Angie Debo:

…The delegates earnestly protested against any change in their treaty status, but the board reported that the Indian governments had failed and urged Congress to abolish them. Twelve territorial bills were introduced in Congress during the session.

Under these circumstances it is not strange that the government officials lost interest in the Okmulgee council. It had become a great unifying influence drawing the tribes together, a clearing house of information regarding agriculture, education, etc., and a school of diplomacy in the contest with the white man. The Civilized Tribes used it as a medium for memorials and protest, in faultless English, against railroad schemes and land grabs; and the bewildered nomads of the plains, fighting for their existence against odds they could not understand, came for sympathy and advice. In 1875 twenty-nine were represented. Even the Kiowas and Comanches had come in by this time. The previous fall the white man's soldiers had converged from all directions upon their prairie fastness, and their fighting spirit was completely crushed. To the Texans they were painted fiends, who deserved only to be exterminated, but their brother Indians listened to their story of the wrongs they had suffered and drew up a memorial in their behalf.

By this time the Indian office had fallen completely under the control of the land-grabbers. Commissioner Edward P. Smith reported that year that the Okmulgee Council had failed to create a territory, and he advised Congress to place the Indians under a government with a governor and judges appointed by the President and laws enacted by Congress. But the picturesque gatherings in the little capital on the edge of the prairie had attracted wide attention, and a tract was even published in France advising the Indians to adopt a union similar to the Swiss Confederation. This foreign author did not understand that the problem was not to assist the Indians but to restrain them. During the session of 1875-76 thirteen territorial bills were introduced in Congress, but the appropriation for the Council of the Indian Territory was discontinued and it never met again.

The last year of its existence the Creek delegates urged the council to establish a newspaper to defend the Indian cause, but the other delegates failed to approve and in October the Creek Council took it up as a tribal project. A charter was granted to a corporation to be known as the International Printing Company, composed of the chiefs of the five Tribes. Dr. Myron P. Roberts, a white man from the north who apparently had suggested the plan, was employed as publisher, and William P. Ross served as editor. The first number was published at Muskogee in May, 1876, under the name of The Indian Journal. For several years it was subsidized by the Creek government.

The need of such a newspaper was apparent. In August, 1775, Elias C. Boudinot, a mixed-blood Cherokee commonly believed to be in the employ of the railroads, inspired a meeting of white agitators at Caddo, in the Choctaw Nation, to adopt a series of "booster" resolutions. Boudinot, George A. Reynolds, and Edgar Poe Harris, a white man who had come to the Cherokee country in a vain attempt to obtain recognition as an intermarried citizen, net hauled a building to Muskogee and attempted to establish a newspaper to be known as The Indian Progress. The prospectus stated that it would be "owned, edited, and printed by Indians," that it would carry columns in the various Indian languages, and that it would adopt as its creed the "Caddo Resolutions." Such an expression of "Indian" opinion was, of course, calculated to convince Congress that the tribes themselves were advocating territorial government.

When the Creek Council convened in October, it demanded the immediate removal of the building from Creek soil.

TO BE CONTINUED

Letter to the Editor

Citizen questions Commission

To Angel Ellis, MNN Senior Writer:

As for your report in our Muscogee Nation News volume 39, issue 1, here is another opinion. I felt compelled to write a bit of rebuttal to the 2008 event. I sent in my proposal to amend our creek constitution, which was promptly "trashed" and not read at our convention. Therefore, myself being governed by the laws of our nation's constitutional laws, now understand what other law making process are in place there. We folks that are governed by our constitution do in fact have duties to respond, in a country rooted in democracy.

There is a few instances where the average citizen cannot play any significant role in reshaping the laws of our nation (MCN). Do you believe that the integrity of the convention was upheld? Was a stringent protocol followed in the law concerning the "acknowledged" proposals sent in by registered voters of our nation?

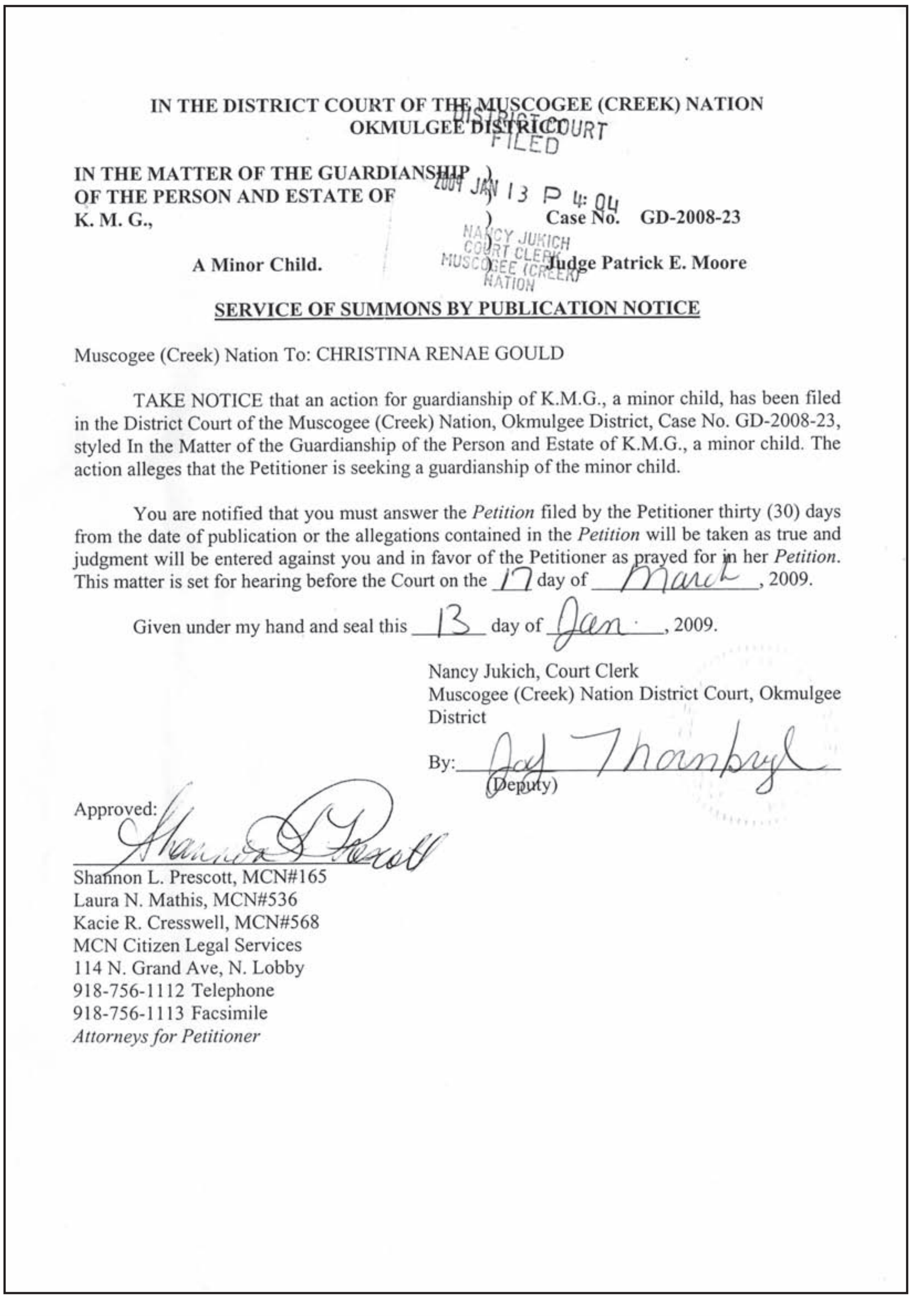
I followed my individual responsibility as a citizen and did in fact send in my proposals. My proposal was listed as #29 in the records. The commission that was formed failed miserably. I have factual proof of this. I would be appalled at what an unproficient and unorganized group would be like, if this one was proper.

The Supreme court probably is not aware of the atrocity that was permitted there. The laws that were not examined, were the very laws that urge and permit citizens to participate! Even after the failure of protocol and citizenship records being called into the question, and notifying Chief A.D. Ellis, District Court's, Judge Patrick Moore, the Citizenship Board and finally Mr. Yahola, Speaker of the National Council, no proper investigation was conducted! This speaks loudly of the process within our government! Of all the proposal received by the convention, my proposal # 29 (two parts) was the only one excluded by this bogus designation "not a citizen." If you care to investigate, let me know, I will assist you.

I apologize that this is directed toward you. I'm pretty sure that you didn't know anything about this incident. So please forgive the harshness of this. Let me know when you receive this. It will facilitate my report that is due others that are of interest.

Gordon L. Jones
CR. # 49089

Legal Notices



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 JAN 13 P 4:04
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP)
OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE OF)
K. M. G.,) Case No. GD-2008-23
)
A Minor Child.) Judge Patrick E. Moore

SERVICE OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: CHRISTINA RENAE GOULD

TAKE NOTICE that an action for guardianship of K.M.G., a minor child, has been filed in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. GD-2008-23, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of K.M.G., a minor child. The action alleges that the Petitioner is seeking a guardianship of the minor child.

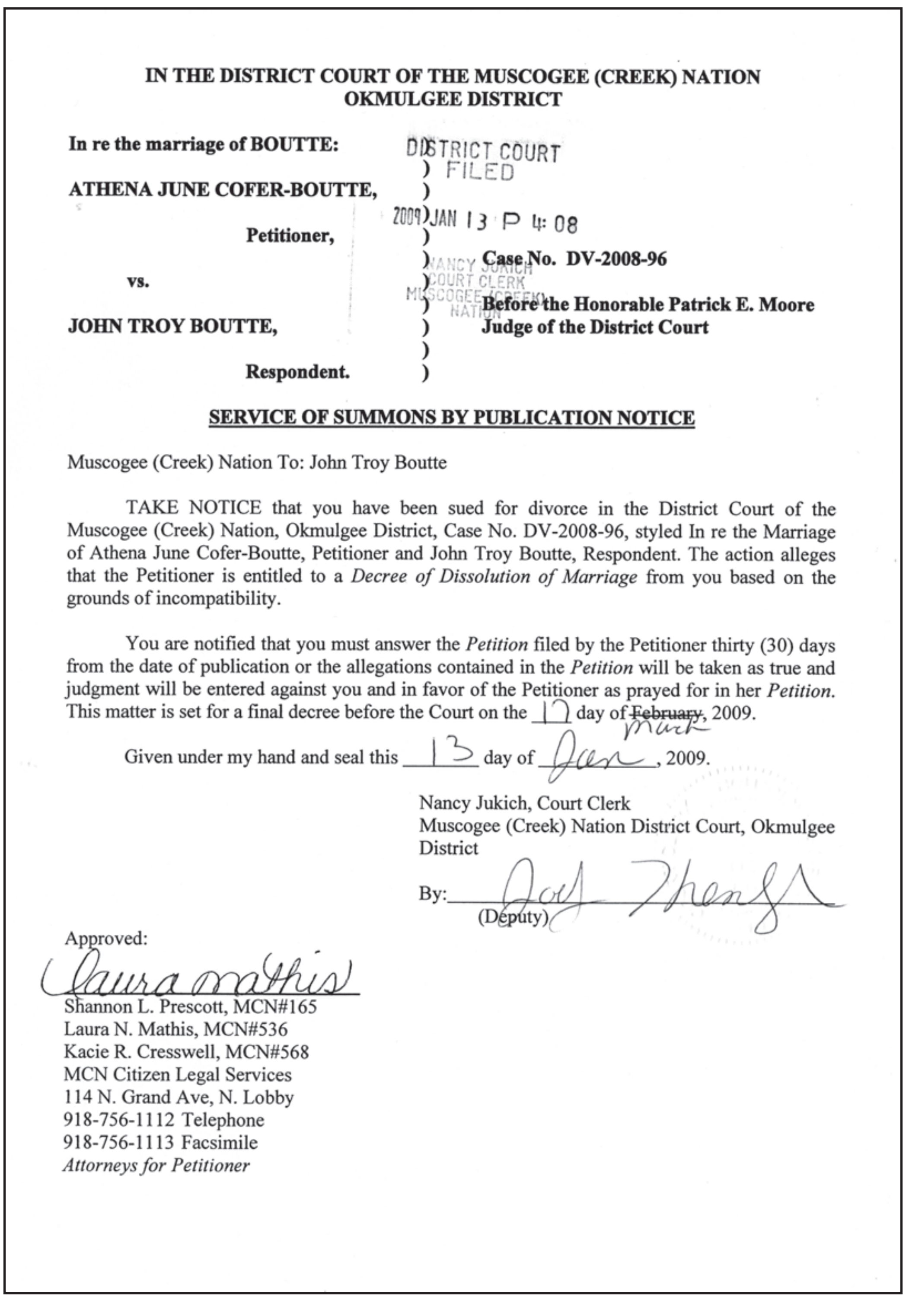
You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioner thirty (30) days from the date of publication or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of the Petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*. This matter is set for hearing before the Court on the 17 day of March, 2009.

Given under my hand and seal this 13 day of Jan., 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: ______
(Deputy)

Approved:
Shannon L. Prescott
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Laura N. Mathis, MCN#536
Kacie R. Cresswell, MCN#568
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, N. Lobby
918-756-1112 Telephone
918-756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioner



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 JAN 13 P 4:08
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

In re the marriage of BOUTTE:)
)
ATHENA JUNE COFER-BOUTTE,)
)
Petitioner,)
) Case No. DV-2008-96
vs.)
) Before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore
JOHN TROY BOUTTE,) Judge of the District Court
)
Respondent.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: John Troy Boutte

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2008-96, styled In re the Marriage of Athena June Cofer-Boutte, Petitioner and John Troy Boutte, Respondent. The action alleges that the Petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioner thirty (30) days from the date of publication or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of the Petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*. This matter is set for a final decree before the Court on the 17 day of ~~February~~ March, 2009.

Given under my hand and seal this 13 day of Jan, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: ______
(Deputy)

Approved:
Laura Mathis
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Laura N. Mathis, MCN#536
Kacie R. Cresswell, MCN#568
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, N. Lobby
918-756-1112 Telephone
918-756-1113 Facsimile
Attorneys for Petitioner

LEGISLATIVE

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION NATIONAL COUNCIL
Session Palen - Cahkepohkaken (15)
2008-2009

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE **DECEMBER 18, SPECIAL SESSION**.

DECEMBER 18, SPECIAL SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES **LENA WIND, BILL FIFE** AND **SHIRLENE ADE** WERE EXCUSED.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• TABLED (19-3-0) TR 08-128, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO ACCEPT ASSIGNMENTS OF THREE (3) REAL ESTATE CONTRACTS FROM LEADERSHIP PROPERTY, LLC

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DAVID NICHOLS, KEEPER JOHNSON** AND **JAMES JENNINGS**.

• KILLED (22-0-0) NCA 08-202, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY IN TULSA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

DECEMBER 20, REGULAR SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES EXCUSED WERE: **DAVID HILL** AND **CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS**. REPRESENTATIVE **PETE BEAVER** WAS EXCUSED AT HIS DISCRETION.

VETO MESSAGE:

• MOTION TO OVER-RIDE FAILED RECORDED AS VETO (13-11-0) TR 08-123, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE RE-NOMINATION OF **ALEF "NANCY" GRAHAM** TO SERVE ON THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEMS BOARD OF DIRECTORS **RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DARRELL PROCTOR, ADAM JONES III, PETE BEAVER, DAVID NICHOLS, KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE ANDERSON, JAMES JENNINGS, THOMAS YAHOLA, STEVE BRUNER, PAULA WILLITS** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

• MOTION TO OVER-RIDE DID NOT RECEIVE 2/3 VOTE RECORDED AS VETO (14-10-0) TR 08-124, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE RE-NOMINATION OF **DR. HOWARD CONDREN** TO SERVE ON THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEMS BOARD OF DIRECTORS **RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DARRELL PROCTOR, ADAM JONES III, PETE BEAVER, DAVID NICHOLS, KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE ANDERSON, JAMES JENNINGS , THOMAS YAHOLA, PAULA WILLITS** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) NCR 08-004, A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL HONORING FORMER SPEAKER **WILBUR (CHEBON) GOUGE** FOR HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND FOR HIS SERVICE, DEDICATION AND CONTRIBUTION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: **KARA MEDINA**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **T. YAHOLA; R. CLEGHORN**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (14-9-0) TR 08-110, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **JUDY AARON** AS THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM SPONSOR: **CHERRAH QUIETT**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DARRELL PROCTOR, ADAM JONES III, PETE BEAVER, DAVID NICHOLS, KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE ANDERSON, JAMES JENNINGS, PAULA WILLITS** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) TR 08-130, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH BOTTLING GROUP, LLC FOR A TERM OF FIVE YEARS SPONSOR: **STEVE BRUNER**; CO-SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) TR 08-132, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY LOCATED IN OKMULGEE, COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **JAMES JENNINGS**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **P. BEAVER; B. FIFE; D. HILL; C. QUIETT; C. TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS; P. WILLITS; T. ANDERSON**

• RETURN TO COMMITTEE (23-0-0) NCA 08-191, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING LOCATED AT THE OMNIPLEX SPONSOR: **DAVID NICHOLS**; CO-SPONSOR: **SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN** ($1,295,407.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **TRAVIS SCOTT** WAS EXCUSED. THEREFORE, 23 PRESENT AND 3 ABSENT.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (17-5-0) NCA 08-03, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET SUPPLEMENTAL FOR THE COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: **PETE BEAVER**; CO-SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS** ($318,998.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DARRELL PROCTOR, ADAM JONES III, BILL FIFE, RON CLEGHORN** AND **SAM ALEXANDER**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (20-2-0) NCA 08-204, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OKMULGEE COUNTY BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT AS A CORPORATE SPONSOR SPONSOR: **JAMES JENNINGS**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **K. JOHNSON; T. SCOTT; J. BEAVER** ($7,500.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **TERRIE ANDERSON** AND **RON CLEGHORN**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (19-3-0) NCA 08-205, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE NEW TULSA CASINO PROJECT FUNDS TO FUND GAMING MACHINE TECHNOLOGY NEEDS UNTIL SUCH TIME AS PERMANENT FINANCING CAN BE OBTAINED SPONSOR: **STEVE BRUNER** ($2,700,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **LARRY CAHWEE, BILL FIFE** AND **KARA MEDINA**.

• APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 08-206, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 08-095 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE GSA/FACILITIES DEPARTMENT) SPONSOR: **DAVID NICHOLS**

• TABLED (14-8-0) NCA 08-207, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE KELLYVILLE INDIAN COMMUNITY BUILDING SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** ($1,354,751.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **LARRY CAHWEE, ROGER BARNETT, LENA WIND, BILL FIFE, CHERRAH QUIETT, SAM ALEXANDER, ROBERT HUFFT** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-1-0) NCA 08-208, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION TO THE GYPSY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR THE PURCHASE OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **D. HILL; L. CAHWEE** ($6,500.00)

VOTING NO WAS REPRESENTATIVE **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 08-209, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE RENOVATION OF THE CLAUDE COX OMNIPLEX SOFTBALL FIELDS AND CONCESSION STAND SPONSOR: **PETE BEAVER** ($971,500.00)

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (22-0-0) NCA 08-211, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO BE USED TOWARD THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN OKMULGEE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **JAMES JENNINGS**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **P. BEAVER; B. FIFE; D. HILL; C. QUIETT; C. TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS; P. WILLITS; T. ANDERSON** ($225,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (16-6-0) NCA 08-212, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE UNPAID FUNERAL EXPENSES OF A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT** ($2,200.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DARRELL PROCTOR, ADAM JONES III, SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN, TERRIE ANDERSON, JAMES JENNINGS** AND **KARA MEDINA**.

DECEMBER 22, EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES THAT WERE EXCUSED: **KARA MEDINA** AND **LENA WIND**. REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT HUFFT** WAS EXCUSED AT HIS DISCRETION.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (21-1-0) TR 08-133, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN UNDERGROUND RIGHT-OF-WAY EASEMENT FOR 99 YEAR TERM AND CONVEY SAID EASEMENT TO PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF OKLAHOMA FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING ELECTRICITY TO THE SITE OF THE RIVER SPIRIT CASINO SPONSOR: **STEVE BRUNER**

VOTING NO WAS REPRESENTATIVE **BILL FIFE**.

REPRESENTATIVE **CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS** ARRIVED. THEREFORE, 24 PRESENT AND 2 ABSENT.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (19-4-0) TR 08-134, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION RATIFYING A COMMITMENT LETTER AND FEE LETTER BETWEEN THE NATION AND BANK OF AMERICA SECURITIES, LLC, BANK OF AMERICA, NA AND WELLS FARGO BANK, NA AND ACCEPTING THE LIMITED WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY CONTAINED THEREIN SPONSOR: **STEVE BRUNER**

National Council Sessions
2009

This is the 2009 Calendar for the Quarterly and Regular Sessions of the National Council in accordance with NCR 93-24A and NCA 93-114 (amended by NCA 95-71). These dates are only subject to change by majority vote of the full Council. In those situations, prior notices will be publicized and posted.

PLANNING SESSIONS will commence at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, four days prior to the Regular/Quarterly National Council Session. **REGULAR SESSIONS** will commence Saturday at 10:00 a.m. in the Auditorium - Mound Building - Capitol Complex. Pre-Agenda commencing at 9:00 a.m. in the same designated place. **REGULAR/QUARTERLY SESSIONS** will commence in the Auditorium - Mound Building - Capitol Complex.

JANUARY 2009	
Planning Session	January 27
Quarterly Session	January 31
FEBRUARY 2009	
Planning Session	February 24
Regular Session	February 28
MARCH 2009	
Planning Session	March 24
Regular Session	March 28
APRIL 2009	
Planning Session	April 21
Quarterly Session	April 25
MAY 2009	
Planning Session	May 12
Regular Session	May 16
JUNE 2009	
Planning Session	June 23
Regular Session	June 27
JULY 2009	
Planning Session	July 21
Quarterly Session	July 25
AUGUST 2009	
Planning Session	August 25
Regular Session	August 29
SEPTEMBER 2009	
Planning Session	September 22
Regular Session	September 26
OCTOBER 2009	
Planning Session	October 27
Quarterly Session	October 31
NOVEMBER 2009	
Planning Session	November 17
Regular Session	November 21
DECEMBER 2009	
Planning Session	December 15
Regular Session	December 19

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Pickens slated for 22nd annual Sovereignty Symposium

Media Release
Oklahoma State Courts Network

OKLAHOMA CITY – The Sovereignty Symposium 2009 will be held June 3 and 4, 2009 At the Skirvin Hilton Hotel in Oklahoma City.

The 22nd annual Sovereignty Symposium will feature keynote speaker T. Boone Pickens, Founder and chairman BP Capital Management.

(As of 1/26/09): Several key elements of the Pickens Plan are playing an important role in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (which we all know as the Stimulus Bill). These elements contribute to President Obama's goals to create new jobs, advance clean energy and lessen our dependence upon foreign oil.

Key elements found in the House version of the Stimulus include:

- $32 billion to transform the nation's energy transmission, distribution, and production systems by allowing for a smarter and better grid and focusing investment in renewable technology.
- $16 billion to repair public housing and make key energy efficiency retrofits.
- $6 billion to weatherize modest-income homes.
- Tax incentives for the instillation of natural gas vehicle home fueling systems and the building of an alternative fuels fueling infrastructure.
- On the wind side of the Plan, there's an $80 Billion loan guarantee program for renewables, a three year extension of the Production Tax Credit (PTC) and an elective 30% Investment Tax Credit (ITC) alternative (House and Senate versions); the ITC for manufacturers in the renewable energy supply chain (Senate only); and lifting of caps on small wind benefits (House and Senate versions). Additionally there are provisions allowing renewable generators to elect a 30% ITC and then to receive a cash grant from the Department of Energy for the value of the ITC (House only).

T. Boone Pickens' vision and proactive energy Plan have played a significant role in the Stimulus Bill—this important piece of legislation is just the beginning of what will be a successful effort to enact the Pickens Plan.

Looking ahead, Pickens will be addressing other elements of the Plan in upcoming major legislation on energy and transportation.

Three scholarships for the event are also available including the Chief Justice John B. Doolin Writing competition, The Ed Edmondson Scholarship and the Susan J. Ferrel Scholarship.

Chief Justice John B. Doolin Writing Competition are now being accepted.

The Supreme Court of Oklahoma, the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission, the Sovereignty Symposium, Inc., and the Oklahoma Arts Council are sponsoring a law student writing competition, open to all students enrolled in an accredited law school in the United States, its territories or Canada.

In conjunction with Sovereignty Symposium XXII, a scholarly collection of legal and historical writings will be presented to all participants. Legal libraries all over the United States regularly solicit copies of the publications for their collections.

The subject matter of the paper may be on any area of the law relating to Native Americans or other indigenous peoples. First, second, and third prizes in the amounts of $500.00; $300.00; and $200.00 will be awarded. The winning entry will also be published in the 2008 Symposium compendium of materials. Second and third place entries will be published if space permits. Entries must be received no later than March 30, 2009. Publication releases will be required prior to payment of prize money.

For more information, contact kyle.shifflett@oscn.net. Papers must be submitted to: The Sovereignty Symposium, Oklahoma State Capitol, Room 208, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105 or e-mailed to: kyle.shifflet@oscn.net.

For the Edmondson Scholarship, applicants should demonstrate an interest in and dedication to Native American law issues and the need for a scholarship in a letter of application. The closing date for this scholarship will be May 5, 2009.

Applicants should demonstrate an interest in and contribution to Native American legal issues by an application letter. There is no application form. Please include name, address, and day and evening telephone numbers in your letter. Applicants must be students at an accredited law school in the United States, its territories, or Canada.

For more information, contact Julie Rorie at (405) 522—5801, or e-mail roriej@oscn.net.

Cleghorn

Continued from A1

Ronald Cleghorn's attorney was in court for another case scheduled for 9 a.m., at the time of the hearing and was asked by Judge Patrick Moore to file an interim of appearance. "The court doesn't know who your lawyer is," said Moore.

The Attorney General's office then handed a copy of the charges to Rep. Cleghorn without reading them, upon the verification that he knew what the documents indicated. The arraignment for the CRM case will be Mon., Feb. 23 at 10 a.m., with a jury trial to follow in April.

"Your lawyer needs to contact the Attorney General's Office to see if there's any discovery that needs to be maintained. We're going to set this on our jury term for April 27," Moore said.

The Attorney General's office also recommended there be no bond with the understanding that Cleghorn did appear at the request of the court on the assigned date and time.

"The Attorney General's Office and the Court agrees to put you on your own reconnaissance," Moore stated.

MNN/*Angel Ellis*
Pictured above is Rep. Ronald Cleghorn at his initial appearance in the MCN District Court on Mon., Jan 26.

Pride

Continued from A1

Under my leadership the band will perform in the 2009 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Parade and Festival. Other activities and performances will be determined as they become available. Musical selections included for this years' band may include "Highlights from West Side Story", "Pop, Rock and Roll" "Movies of the 80s," "The Incredibles," "Latin Fire!!" "Veterans Salute," "Dance (Featuring music from each of the decades of the 20th Century)," "Disney Heroes and Villains," and "At the Tony's!! (Selections from Broadway).

I look forward to working with the musical students and parents of the band. I'm proud of all the Mvskoke students who are enrolled in a music ensemble and continue to study music.

I look forward to the music that the band produces and the experience they get to share with one another. Criteria to be in the band includes being a tribal member, Muscogee (Creek) or other, one year in a musical ensemble, and must provide own instrument. Not only through their common bond of musicianship but as Native youth. If you would like to contact me please e-mail me at Lee.A.Longhorn-1@ou.edu and it will allow me give you any more information about the band. Information about joining the band can be received through Melinda Deeringwater in the Creek Nation Housing Department. Mvto and look forward to hearing from all the young Mvskoke and non-Mvskoke musicians.

- Lee A. Longhorn
Alto/Tenor Saxophone

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FREE HEALTH SCREENING & MEET PAUL THOMPSON FEBRUARY 23rd 10 AM

Free health screening for ages 21 and above, located in the Bingo hall. Paul Thompson, a former University of Oklahoma football quarterback will be present for a meet and greet autograph session during the health screening.

VALENTINES DAY
Feb. 14th
Diamond Club Valentines
Noon - 10:00 PM
$10 Match Play for Diamond Card Members.
Sweetheart Hot Seat Drawings
Noon - 4:00 PM
We will draw names every 1/2 hour from Noon - 4:00 PM. Each hot seat winner and their sweetheart will each receive $50 in free play.
Sweetheart Electronic Games Tournament
4:30 PM - 9:00 PM
Each hot seat winner and their sweetheart will play in the tournament. The top 3 players during each round will win a prize. Prizes range from $25 to $1,000.
Bingos Valentines Day
Mini Games pay DOUBLE!
VIPickem, Super Jackpot, and Bonanza pay $500. $15 pay $750.

MARDI GRAS
Feb. 24th
Mardi Gras Hot Seat Drawings
Noon - 4:00 PM
5 - $100 Diamond Club Hot Seat drawings every 30 minutes.
Mardi Gras
Electronic Games Tournament
4:30 - 9:00 PM
We will draw hot seat winners to play in the tournament. The top 3 players during each round will win a prize. Prizes range from $50 to $1,000.

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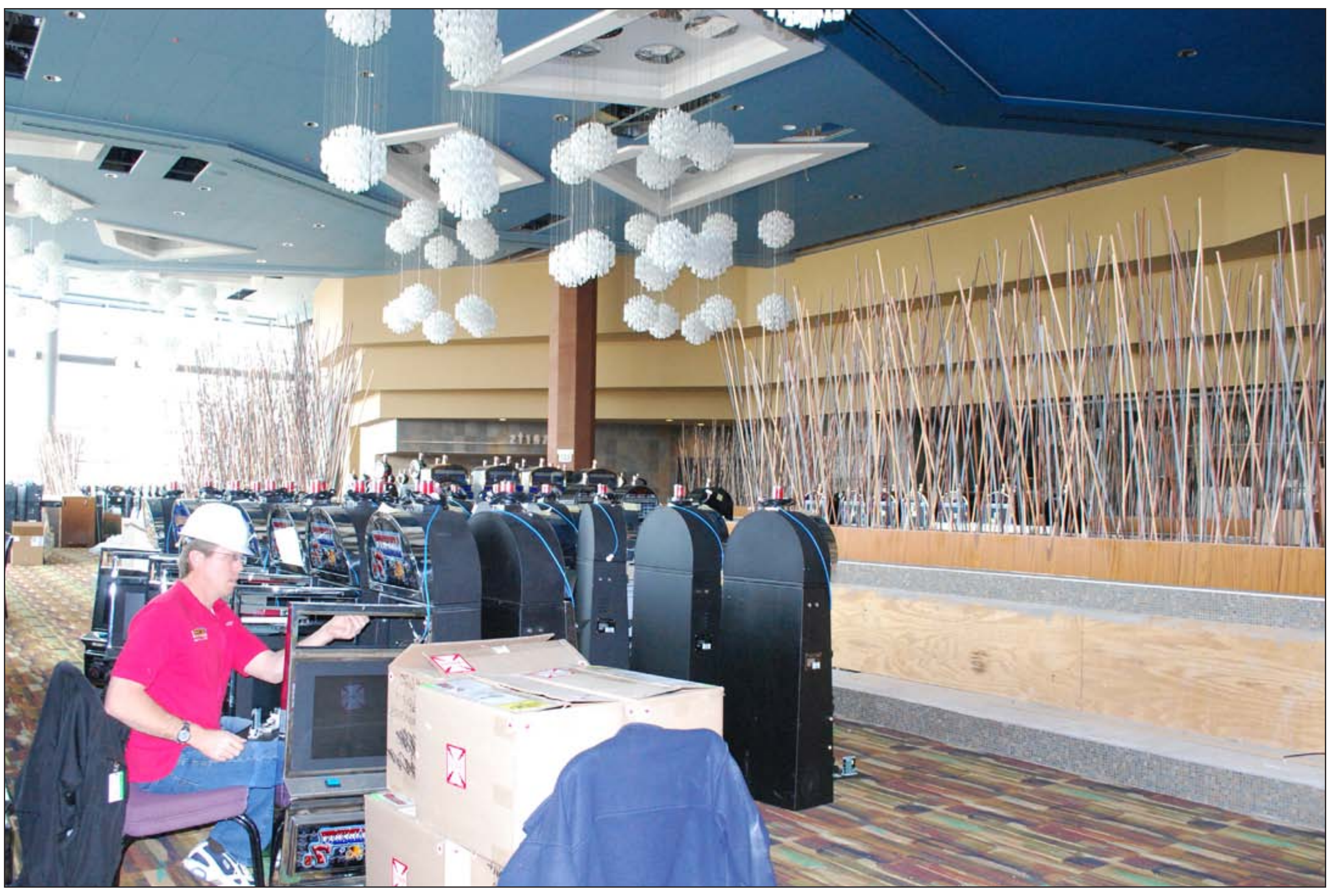
Tulsa Casino update



MNN/*Starla Bush*

Vegas Opulence
AT THE SPIRIT

From the exterior view it's impressive, but step inside and it will blow your mind. From the sheer magnitude of the structure to the incredible design, the River Spirit is sure to be a crowd pleaser. While giving the grand tour, Jerry Lawson, who has worked on construction projects for 30 years said, "I've never worked on anything like this before. It's one of a kind."

The infrastructure sits soundly above the 100-year flood line, while special air filtration systems make it more refreshing. Facilities are state of the art and provisions for food and entertainment will accommodate all tastes.

A marble entrance, wood walls, and cool breezy colors accompanied by flowing glass chandeliers complete the ebb and flow of the River Spirit. Lounges, a sports bar, 400-seat buffet, VIP areas, a stainless steel kitchen which has been called the 'luxury car' of food preparations, a filtration system which turns over the air seven times per minute and a unique layout for all these facilities make it a dream for all to enjoy.

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Okmulgee Creek Indian Community opens new smoke shop

by Ester Gee
Okmulgee Creek Indian Community

OKMULGEE — The new Okmulgee Indian Community smoke shop is tentatively scheduled to open for business on Tues., Feb. 3, 2009 at 10 a.m.

Located south of Okmulgee on the corner of Highway 75 and 36th St., the new shop will be drive-thru accessible and along with tobacco products, will offer convenience store items such as snack foods and hot/cold beverages. More items will be added at a later date.

Next door to the facility will a tourism kiosk and gift shop featuring Native-made arts and crafts. Tourists arriving in Okmulgee will be able to learn about Creek Nation and its activities. As a member of the Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce, information about the city of Okmulgee will also be available.

The Okmulgee Indian Community was chartered in Dec. 1983 and has operated the old smoke shop on Wood Drive for 15 years when they originally leased the building from the Red Rooster Convenience Store. The new smoke shop is a continuing economic development project for the Okmulgee Indian Community which has more than 170 members.

Leading the Okmulgee Indian Community Board is Chair Ester Gee, Vice-Chair Pearl Thomas, Treasurer Robyn Culley, Secretary Pat Williams and Sergeant-at-Arms Reuben Factor.

Building Committee members include Michele Billie, Darlene Taryole and Robert Jones. Shop manager for the new smoke shop will be Marie Lyons, with Darlene Stratton as assistant shop manager. Staffing the new facility will be Bryan Gaches, Brandy Nelson, Shawn Tyndall, Nicole Berryhill and Stanley Harjo.

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Pictured above are Okmulgee Indian Community members who helped get the new smoke shop up and running for the Feb. 9 opening date,

Creek artist to speak at NBN luncheon

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

Tulsa — The Native Business Network has some exciting changes for the upcoming February meeting, at which Muscogee (Creek) citizen, Jon Tiger will be speaking.

The NBN will now be meeting on the second Thurs., of each month at the Tulsa Marriott Southern Hills, 1902 East 71st Street. The next scheduled meeting will be held Feb. 12, 2009. The luncheon will take place at 11:30 a.m.-1p.m.

Those interested in attending must RSVP. Meal cost for members with reservations are $15.00, without a reservation the cost is $20.00. For non-members the meal cost is $25.00.

The Feb., presenter is Gary Sheely of Professional Training & Coaching Consultants. Sheely is the Senior Vice President for EngageLife Success Coaching.

Also scheduled to appear at the meeting is Jon Tiger who is the featured artist at this year's Tulsa Indian Arts Festival and Muscogee (Creek) citizen. His skills cover educational exhibits, storytelling, authentic American Indian food and student art exhibits.

Salazar meets with tribal leaders on eve of historic Obama inauguration

by Deana Jackson
NIGA Press Release

ARLINGTON, Va., — On the eve of the historic inauguration of Barack Obama, Secretary of the Interior designate Ken Salazar met with a group of more than 500 tribal leaders from around the Nation. Salazar assured them that in the Obama Administration, Native Americans will always have a place inside the tent.

Salazar said, "We recognize the special relationship and trust responsibility that the United States has with Indian tribes. It is important that we meet face to face to work together with mutual respect."

The event was sponsored by the National Indian Gaming Association and the National Congress of American Indians. NIGA Chairman Ernest L. Stevens said, "Obama is a true visionary. He has shown his commitment by reaching out to Indian country from the beginning. Tribal leaders are eager to engage with the new Administration to build a strong nation-to-nation relationship. After tomorrow, it's time to get to work."

At the time of Salazar's nomination, President-elect Obama said, "We will ensure that we finally live up to the treaty obligations owed to the First Americans. We need more than a government-to-government relationship. We need a nation-to-nation relationship. Ken and I will make sure that tribal nations have a voice in this Administration."

Salazar indicated that the first priority is to staff up the Department of the Interior and then they will get to work on Indian trust issues, Indian health care, education, economic development and energy issues.

President Joe Garcia from the National Congress of American Indians said "What a way to start 2009 and a new relationship with the incoming Obama Administration. It is encouraging that Sen. Salazar is putting Indian Country's agenda at the top of his priority list before he even takes the oath of office."

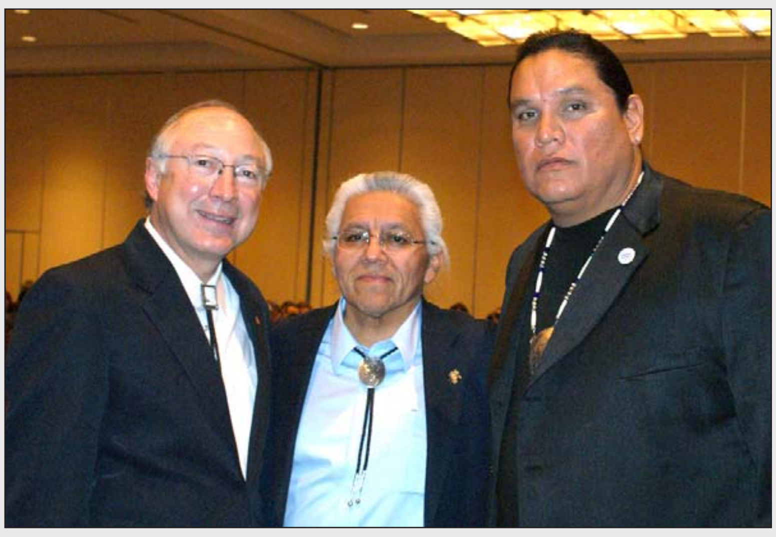


Photo courtesy of NIGA

U.S. Secretary of the Interior Designate Ken Salazar joins NCAI President Joe Garcia and NIGA Chairman Ernie Stevens, Jr. at the National Tribal Leaders Summit.

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Skin Deep - *Bronze Beauty*

by Selina Jayne-Dornan
Licensed Esthetician

EUFAULA — In 1985, the American Academy of Dermatology became alarmed at the growing incidence of skin cancer and started preventive public education. Their campaign warned the public about the dangers of over-exposure to the sun and sun beds, stating, "there is no safe way to tan." The tanning war was on. But the ongoing campaign didn't stop skin cancer rates from growing, with sun worshipers still lying in the sun or tanning at the tanning salon. In fact, the Skin Cancer Foundation predicted approximately 65,050 melanomas would be diagnosed in 2007, with nearly 10,850 resulting in death.

Jayne-Dornan

Some who learned of the dangers of sun and ultraviolet exposure began looking for alternatives. It's been a long journey to find a skin-safe way to look tan throughout the year, but new technology has made this possible.

The first sunless tanning lotion was an over-the counter Coppertone formula in l960 that often turned skin orange, but the majority of attempts at sunless tanning came out in the early 1980s. These retail and salon self-tanning lotions were rubbed on the body, but they often appeared unnatural, required a lot of maintenance, and were less effective overall. Some even had a lingering odor and came off on sheets and clothing. Next were tanning beds, which worked well and used primarily ultraviolet B rays. Because of burning, these were eventually updated to use mostly ultraviolet A rays. Then in 1985, the American Academy of Dermatology said ultraviolet A rays were also harmful to skin. Luckily, two of the more recent developments in sunless tanning (without any ultraviolet rays) allow those who wish to be perennially bronzed to be so without health risks, odors, or fabric stains.

Sunless tans used to be disparaged, with the terms fake tan, canned tan, and fake 'n' bake used even among those who purchased them. However, they've become especially popular in the last year. "Many celebrities have revealed that sunless is their tan of choice."

Clients can now be bronzed in minutes in a sunless booth or by the more hands-on method of spray tanning. While traditional tanning uses ultraviolet rays from the sun or sun beds to stimulate the deposit of melanin (the pigment that deposits color into the skin), sunless tanning stains or colors the skin. Dermatologists have supported sunless as the method of choice for those who like to tan since the first cosmetic ingredient providing color was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in 1979. Most dermatologists consider it as safe as applying makeup.

The active ingredient for sunless tanning, dihydroxyacetone (DHA), is derived from raw sugarcane and sugar beets and was the first to be FDA-approved for safety. It reacts with the amino acids in the stratum corneum to produce coloration. The color develops in three to four hours, deepens over the next 24 hours, and lasts one week to 10 days, depending on the aftercare practice.

Booth or Airbrush? Many spray booths spray indiscriminately, distributing the same amount of product to body areas even though some need a lighter application or other special consideration. This results in an inconsistent tan, often splotchy and streaky. Some booths also require use of an alcohol-based solution, which is drying to the skin.

A significant improvement to airbrush technology has been a hand-held unit that has improved delivery making the service faster and more efficient. It allows a six to seven minute full body application with easy to control spray. The only drawback I have found with clients is they become embarrassed and self-conscious when they find out that I have to spray the solution on them.

Spray tanning may not be for everyone and remember there is some preparation in advance. Exfoliate prior to visit and do not apply lotions, oils, gels, perfumes, deodorants, makeup or any other products that may create a barrier. After your tan use moisturizers or tan extenders. You must still wear sunscreen to stay healthy because spray on tans provides no protection from the ultraviolet rays we're trying to avoid.

But oh what we will do for beauty. As one of my clients put it "fat looks better when it's tan!" Well put.

Selina Jayne-Dornan is a licensed Esthetician and the owner of Merle Norman Cosmetics Studio and Elegance Spa in Eufaula.

Oklahoma attacks the 'Crystal Darkness'

by Dan Cross
Keetoowah Cherokee Treatment Services

TULSA — On Tues., Jan. 13, Oklahoma launched an attack against the methamphetamine threat to our state and its people through a campaign called Crystal Darkness. Childhelp, an advocacy, prevention, treatment, and community outreach agency, first developed the Crystal Darkness campaign for the City of Reno, Nevada. Oklahoma is the fourth state to implement the campaign, which broadcasted this hard-hitting video across all major television networks in the state.

The video showcased stories of several Oklahomans whose lives had been devastated by the drug. More than 255 neighborhood watch parties were organized across the state to watch the impact of methamphetamine (also known as "crystal", "crank", "meth", "ice", and "tweek") and discuss what they, as communities, can do to stop the destruction.

Crystal Darkness Co-Chairs, Wes Lane and Oklahoma First Lady Kim Henry, organized this event, which they called "…an historic era in our state. Never before have Oklahomans been as mobilized and united to combat a single issue as they have with Crystal Darkness." Gena Timberman, Executive Director of the American Indian Cultural Center and Museum, led an initiative to mobilize Native American communities across the state.

Two days before the Crystal Darkness broadcast, a collaborative effort produced an Anti-Meth training session for tribal leaders sponsored by Lamar Associates. "This training helps law enforcement and tribal community programs come together," said Walter Lamar, President and CEO of Lamar Associates. "Through a collaborative problem-solving approach, our training will help communities develop a realistic and sound strategy to attack the methamphetamine problem." Topics included the meth crisis in Indian Country, signs and effects of meth in a tribal community and criminal jurisdiction. The sessions were presented by law enforcement experts.

"The best way to prevent methamphetamine addiction is not to do it at all," says Dan Cross, Keetoowah Cherokee Treatment Services of Tulsa. "Meth can be addicting the first time it is used because of the effects it has upon the pleasure centers of the brain." Cross explained that Oklahoma has been one of the leading states for methamphetamine abuse for several years, despite new laws enacted in 2004.

These laws limited access to the ingredients needed to make meth and became a model for other states to follow. "While they reduced the number of meth labs in the state, they didn't reduce the demand, the addiction," Cross observed. "Supplies of the drug continue to flow from neighboring states, Mexico, and the Caribbean to meet that demand, because people are addicted," he added. Oklahoma continues to have a meth abuse rate 42% greater than the national average.

Keetoowah Cherokee Treatment Services, in Tulsa, is an outpatient treatment center that specializes in methamphetamine and opioid (prescription painkillers and heroin) addictions. Cross pointed out, "Until we address the demand for the drug, suppliers will find a way to make money on the addiction. Prevention and treatment are the answers to demand."

The Crystal Darkness campaign was a beginning toward this end. The "end" depends upon what we do as communities.

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quapawcounselingservices.com

HEALTHNOTES

Valentine's Day – give a gift that is also heart healthy

by Melissa Scheef, RD/LD
Sapulpa Clinic Diabetes Program

SAPULPA — Are you expecting something sweet from your significant other this Valentine's Day? Do you plan to give something chocolaty and wrapped with your love? These expressions of love are flattering to our ego, but not always to our waistline. This can be an especially challenging when the recipient is trying to control their blood sugar. The good news is, a sweet treat once in a while is fine (the same goes for those who do not have blood sugar issues).

While you are trying to figure out the best way to capture the heart of the one you love, consider giving them something that will help their heart. Let's say you want to treat your sweetie to a special dinner. Consider serving a fatty fish such as salmon, trout, mackerel, tuna, or sardines. These fish are rich in omega-3 fatty acids. Omega-3's help prevent heart disease and lower triglyceride levels. The American Heart Association recommends two servings of fish weekly for their omega-3 fatty acid content. Round out the meal with a whole grain dinner roll, some colorful vegetables, and a low calorie beverage and you have the makings of a heart healthy meal.

Is that chocolate still on your mind? Dark chocolate (also known as "semi-sweet") actually has some health benefits aside from tasting marvelous. Dark chocolate contains chemical compounds that can help lower blood pressure and act as anti-depressants. The flavanols in dark chocolate helps fight damage-causing free radicals. Free radicals have been linked to cancer, atherosclerosis, Parkinson's disease, schizophrenia, and Alzheimer's disease. Dark chocolate is also rich in magnesium, a mineral responsible for a large variety of functions such as blood sugar regulation, lowering high blood pressure, keeping your immune system strong, and your heart healthy. Magnesium is also found in whole grains and many vegetables (remember that whole grain dinner roll and colorful vegetables at dinner?).

A word of caution concerning sugar free candies - they are usually sweetened with sugar alcohols (sorbitol, xylitol, mannitol, etc.) which have been known to cause quite a bit of intestinal distress in some people. Eating too many sugar alcohol sweetened candies at one time may cause, gas, bloating, cramping, and/or diarrhea – not how I would want to spend a romantic evening.

A heart healthy ending to your special day? Go for a romantic walk together.

What kind of physical activity should be part of my routine?

by William Fixico
Exercise Programs Manager Sapulpa Clinic

SAPULPA — A complete physical activity routine includes three kinds of activities; Aerobic exercise, strength training and flexibility exercises.

Aerobic Exercise: Increases your heart rate, works your muscles and raises your breathing rate. For most people, it's best to aim for a total of about 30 minutes at least 5 days a week. If you haven't been very active recently, you can start out with 5 or 10 minutes a day and work up to more time each week. Or you can split up your activity for the day. For example, try a brisk 10 minute walk after each meal. Here are some examples of aerobic exercise: walking, low-impact aerobics, swimming, riding a bike and dancing.

Strength Training: Done several times a week, this will help build strong bones and muscles and makes everyday chores like carrying groceries easier for you. With more muscle, you burn more calories, even at rest. Here are some ways to do it: lifting light weights, using a dyna band or join a health club that has a variety of strength training machines and programs. If you do not have access to weights, water bottles or canned goods will work. When doing a full body workout, be sure to skip a day to allow your muscles to rebuild.

Flexibility Exercise: Stretching helps to keep your joints flexible and reduce your chances of injury during other activities. Gentle stretching for 5 to 10 minutes helps your body warm up and get ready for aerobic activities such as walking or swimming.

Including these three activities in your daily living will help increase your energy level, lower blood sugar and blood pressure. This will help in preventing or controlling diabetes and decrease your chances of getting cardiovascular disease.

OIHC celebrates national Children's Dental Health Month

by Jamie Campbell
Okmulgee Indian Health Center

OKMULGEE — February is National Children's Dental Health Month (NCDHM). NCDHM has been sponsored by the American Dental Association since 1949 and is designed to raise awareness about the importance of oral health. Development of good habits at an early age in addition to regular dental exams helps establish the basis for a lifetime of healthy teeth and gums.

Dental exams should occur as early as six months after the first tooth is visible in the mouth. The purpose of the initial well-baby exam is two-fold: to ensure the teeth are erupting as they should and to be an educational visit for the parents or other family members. A topic of concern for this age group is baby bottle tooth decay which is a condition of severe decay. It is a result of prolonged exposure of a baby's teeth to sugary liquids including fruit juice, milk, or formula. This can occur when a baby is put to bed with a bottle. Because of the severity of this type of decay, the child should be encouraged to transition to drinking from a cup by their first birthday.

Dental visits for older children can include x-rays, a visual examination, cleaning, and fluoride treatment. During this exam visit, it will be determined if additional treatment, such as fillings, caps, or extractions, is required. A treatment plan will be formulated as well as emphasizing brushing and flossing techniques. Once permanent teeth (molars and premolars) begin to erupt, sealants are recommended to be placed as a preventive measure to avoid new cavities.

Excellent oral health is a team effort. Parents and grandparents should play an active role in children's dental health, while dental health care workers provide guidance and education to achieve the goal of disease-free teeth and gums.

In observance of National Children's Dental Health Month, the dental staff of the MCN Health System is sponsoring a coloring contest for children attending Creek Nation Head Start Centers. If your child attends any of the centers, he or she will be eligible for participation. The entry form and coloring page will be available at the centers and will need to be returned by Feb. 25.

CHARTERED COMMUNITY NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Compensation for community officials notice

The following is a statement received by the Community Research and Development Department on January 20, 2009 concerning Communities that pay their elected officials stipends.

This office is in receipt of your Jan. 12, 2009 legal request in which you ask if the payment of stipends to Chartered Indian Community ("Community") elected officials should be stipulated in the Community Constitution and By-Laws ("Constitution"). It is our position that stipend amounts in a Community Constitution are not necessary. However, in order for a Community to compensate its elected officials the following items must be in place:

1. The Community Constitution must state that its elected officials will be compensated. (If there is no mention in the Community Constitution about elected officials compensation, then the Community Constitution must be amended to allow for said activity. Payment of elected officials stipends without Community Constitution approval is a violation of the Community Constitution.)

2. The Community Constitution must state that its elected officials will be compensated in accordance with a Compensation and Reimbursement Policy ("Policy").

(The Constitution should state that the Policy must be approved by a majority of the Community at a regular monthly Community meeting. In addition, the Community Constitution must state that the elected officials "compensation may not be increased during their term of office. Any change in compensation will take effect for the next Board.").

A stipend amount is generally not the type of information that is detailed in a Constitution. It is usual practice to mention that compensation will be made and that it will be paid in accordance with a law or policy.

Partnership Board looking for volunteers

OKMULGEE — The MCN Community Partnership Board is planning to host the 7th Annual Spring Celebration on March 20th, 2009 here at the complex. This is a one-day event to bring youth and families together for fellowship and to provide an opportunity for all to learn of the services available through the tribe. This event has about 600 visitors each year.

This year the MCN Community Partnership Board is in need of volunteers. There will be different activities for all age groups: from games, to inflatables to basketball tournaments. If you would be interested in helping out with this fun-filled activity you can contact Janice Hanun or Neenah Emarthle @ (918) 732-7968.

Mvskoke Food Sovereignty hosts symposium

The MFSI will be hosting an educational event, the first annual "Return to Your Roots Food Sovereignty Symposium." The symposium is scheduled for March 20th and 21st, 2009, at the Capital Complex Mound Bldg. The participants will be exposed to our modern Muscogee Culture as the expert presenters enlighten us with their knowledge.

An impressive group of experts in many aspects of the food system including the health benefits of traditional foods, Muscogee agriculture heritage, growing and cooking traditional foods and resources available from farmers in our area. Also scheduled are presentations from other tribes and several Muscogee Communities about their agriculture projects. A traditional meal prepared by Muscogee citizens will be provided on Sat. For more information contact Ben Yahola or Vicky Karhu at (918) 756-5915 by e-mail: at info@mvskokefood.org., or visit www.mvskokefood.org.

Valentine's Day dance

Okemah Indian Community Youth Group will be hosting a Valentines Dance on Sat., Feb. 14th at Okemah (Oakes School) from 7 p.m., to 9 p.m. Ages 12 to 18 are invited, admission is $2.00. Activities will include: King and Queen Contest; Dance Contest - The Cupid Shuffle, Door Prizes, Concession, Pictures.

U.S. Census Bureau recruiting census takers for Native communities

Media Release
MCN Community Research and Development

OKMULGEE — The U.S. Census Bureau will be testing for employment at Okemah and Okmulgee Indian Communities throughout the month of Jan.

Testing for Okemah will be held Tues., Jan. 13 at 9 a.m., and again at 1 p.m. The Okmulgee Indian Community will hold the training on Wed., Jan. 7 at 1 p.m.

Census employees may earn competitive weekly pay, training, a flexible work schedule and reimbursement for authorized mileage and travel-related expenses.

Applicants should bring a form of identification such as a driver's license, school I.D., voter registration card, passport, social security card or Native American enrollment card to the testing site. Other communities involved are Holdenville, Tulsa and Eufuala.

Areas of skill to be tested include clerical abilities, reading comprehension, number skills, interpretation of information and evaluation of alternatives along with organizational skills.

Help your community have a successful 2010 Census. For more information, please call 1-866-861-2010 or visit the Web site at www.census.gov/kansascity. Informational brochures are also available in the Community Research and Development office on the main campus of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Social Services offers winter energy assistance

by Julie Ziriax
MCN Social Services Manager

OKMULGEE —The Social Services Department continues to offer the Tribal Energy program for heating assistance. We will continue to take applications through March 31, 2009, or until the funds are exhausted.

Tribal Energy is available for elders (55 and older) or those receiving disability benefits through the Social Security Administration.

To apply for services, please choose one of the following options:

Applicants may choose to apply:

1) IN PERSON - No appointment is necessary and clients will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis. Office hours are 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. We are now located at 2971 N. Wood Drive, just north of Housing.

2) BY MAIL – Please mail all documents to: MCN Social Services, Attn: LIHEAP or Tribal Energy, PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

3) BY FAX – Please fax all documents to 918-759-9988 and include a cover sheet addressed to LIHEAP or Tribal Energy.

4) IN YOUR COMMUNITY – Please bring all your documents to the field site. A Social Services Caseworker is available every month in chartered communities between 9:30 and 11a.m., on specified days (see field schedule below for specific days).

Those who wish to apply should provide:

1) Tribal cards and Social Security cards for everyone in the household

2) Gas bill OR Propane vendor OR Wood vendor (Electric bill only if you are total electric. You may be asked to verify this.)

3) Copies of all income sources

4) Phone number (in case we need to contact you)

5) Authorization for Social Services to sign the application (if mailing or faxing)

6) Non-Duplication statement: Statement detailing any assistance received in the past 12 months from any federal, state, tribe, community, and/or church agency or the like with utilities, and/or deposits.

7) Additional documentation may be required

Applicants should keep paying their bill until they receive an approval letter. Please allow at least 45 days for processing.

We are currently out of LIHEAP funds but will resume applications in the summer for electric. Please contact Social Services at 918-759-2334 if you need additional information. The toll-free number is 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7995.

MCN Social Services and Food Distribution Field Schedule

Coweta	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	2nd Tuesday of the Month
Glenpool	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	2nd Wednesday of the Month
Bristow	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	2nd Thursday of the Month
Eufaula	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	3rd Tuesday of the Month
Sapulpa	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	3rd Wednesday of the Month
Checotah	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	3rd Thursday of the Month
Weleetka	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	4th Tuesday of the Month
Okemah	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	4th Wednesday of the Month
Holdenville	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	4th Thursday of the Month

2009 MCN Service Awards

Photo courtesy of Thompson Gouge

Pictured left to right is Principal Chief AD Ellis along with Louise Tecumseh and Thomas Mitchell who received blankets for their 30 years of service with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Photo courtesy of Thompson Gouge

Pictured left to right is Principal Chief AD Ellis along with Joyce Vaughn, Linday Rayon, Rosie Berryhill, Tracey Lowe, Jerri On-The-Hill, Barbara Dunn and Deborah McGirt who have reached the 25 years plus mark with the Nation.

Photo courtesy of Thompson Gouge

Pictured left to right is Principal Chief AD Ellis along with Grace Slinker, Russell Watashe, David McGirt and Perry Anderson who have been working for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for 20 plus years.

Photo courtesy of Thompson Gouge

Pictured left to right is Principal Chief AD Ellis along with Newman Frank, Mona Lowe, Janice Bigpond, Pat Johnson, Robert VanStraten, Stacy Settlemyre and Dell Proctor (not pictured are Ben Watashe and Tim Thompson) who have served the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for 15 plus years.

Planting and Growing Traditional Corn

Including history of Southeastern Food.

A FREE Class - Open to the public.
Saturday, Feb. 7th
2:00 - 4:00
208 W. 6th Street
Okmulgee, OK

Come and enjoy listening to the history of the traditional corn of the Southeastern Tribes of the United States. Learn how to plant, grow and prepare the corn from two experts: Kent Sanmann, (Kiowa) and Steven Bonds, (Chickasaw) Ethnobotanist for the Chickasaw Nation and a southeastern foods history expert. This class is sponsored by MFSI (Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative).

Time: 2:00 - 4:00
Location: 208 W. 6th Street (Across from Kirby's)
Okmulgee, OK 74447
For more info. call 918-756-5915

Native scholarship opportunities

LaGrant Foundation Scholarship

THE LAGRANT FOUNDATION (TLF) is now accepting applications for $100,000 in scholarships for the 2009/2010 academic year. Applications must be submitted to TLF by Fri., Feb. 27, for consideration.

Ethnic minority undergraduate and graduate students majoring in advertising, marketing or public relations are eligible for the TLF scholarships. In an effort to increase ethnic minority representation in the communications industry, TLF awards $5,000 scholarships to undergraduate students and $10,000 scholarships to graduate students.

TLF was established in 1998 by Mr. Kim L. Hunter, whose vision is to see more ethnic representation within the fields of advertising, marketing and public relations. By targeting college students, TLF paves the path toward a successful career right from the start.

“It is important to help ethnic minority students achieve their education goals and help guide them toward their future careers,” said Founder/Chairman of TLF, Mr. Kim L. Hunter. “By doing this, TLF is helping to create diversity within the advertising, marketing and public relations industries and reflect the society we live in.”

TLF scholarship requirements are as follows: students must be of African American, Asian/Pacific Islander, Hispanic/Latino or Native American descent; must have a 2.75 GPA if undergraduate or 3.2 GPA if graduate: must be seeking an undergraduate or graduate degree at an accredited college or university; must be enrolled in one of the three programs mentioned above; and must make a commitment to maintain contact with TLF for assistance with professional development.

Since its inception in 1998, THE LAGRANT FOUNDATION has awarded a total of $770,000 to 136 students nationwide. In 2009, TLF will celebrate its 11th Anniversary Scholarship Recognition Reception and Awards Program in New York City. The scholarship recipients will participate in a day-long career development workshop and have the opportunity to meet with industry professionals.

Thanks to its committed board of directors and donors, TLF continues to strive toward achieving its mission of increasing ethnic minorities in advertising, marketing and public relations.

Scholarship applications may be obtained through TLF’s website at www.lagrantfoundation.org, or by calling Programs Manager, Ericka Avila at 323.469.8680, ext. 233 or erickaavila@lagrant.com.

The LaGrant Foundation is a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) organization whose mission is to increase the number of ethnic minorities in the fields of advertising, marketing and public relations by providing scholarships, career development workshops, internships, professional development and mentors to African American, Asian/Pacific Island American, Native American and Hispanic/Latino undergraduate and graduate students. For more information, please visit www.lagrantfoundation.org.

Morris K. Udall Scholarship

Morris K. Udall Foundation is pleased to announce our 2009 Scholarship Program opportunities! The Scholarship Program awards eighty $5,000 merit-based scholarships for college sophomores and juniors seeking a career in tribal health, tribal public policy or the environment. Scholarship recipients participate in a five-day Orientation in Tucson, Ariz., to learn more about tribal and environmental issues.

Applications must be submitted through a Udall Faculty Representative at the student’s college or university. More information about Faculty Representatives can be found on the Udall web site. The application deadline for the 2008 academic year is March 3, 2009. Visit the web site to learn more: http://udall.gov/.

Keepers of the Fire scholarship

The “Keepers of the Fire Scholarship” is an annual scholarship program that awards 3 $500.00 scholarships to American Indian (Indigenous) students attending a college or university in the United States or Canada. The scholarships are given in honor of my parents, Philip L. and Esther J. Niles. My father, Philip Niles, was an enrolled tribal member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma (descended from the Fox family clan) and dedicated his professional life to helping many American Indian tribes throughout the United States through his employment with the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

My father was very proud of his ancestors and heritage. Even though he is now deceased, being an enrolled member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma myself (traditional name of Wakshe – “Red Fox”), it is my way of supporting the education and capacity-building of the American Indian (Indigenous) student population.

The three Keepers of the Fire Scholarships will be given to American Indian (Indigenous) students who are accepted into or registered at a college or university (preferably studying Social Work or American Indian Studies).

The scholarship is a one-time award of $500.00. The recipients and non-awardees are encouraged to reapply in the following year (Fall 2010).

The nominees must be an enrolled tribal member of any American Indian (Indigenous) tribe or community in the United States or Canada.

Preference will be given to those who are returning to their tribe following their college graduation.

Please submit the following by August 31, 2009 (late or emailed applications will not be reviewed):

Letter of interest, name, contact information, college major, academic level (Freshman, Sophomore, Graduate Student, etc.), and plans following graduation from college to:

Dr. Michael Niles (Wakshe), Office of American Indian Projects, 411 North Central Avenue #880M, Phoenix, AZ 85004 ATTN: Edbesendowen Scholarship Selection Committee or Email: Michael.Niles@asu.edu.

The finalists for the scholarship will be interviewed and awardees notified by September 10, 2009. The scholarships will be given out at an informal ceremony at the School of Social Work – Office of American Indian Projects. Details of the ceremony will be provided at a later date.

Health Professions Pre-Graduate IHS Scholarship

Mail applications to: Indian Health Service Scholarship Programs, 801 Thompson Avenue - Suite 120, Rockville, MD 20852 or call (301) 443-6197 or visit: www.scholarship.ihs.gov.

The purpose of the scholarship is to provide financial support for American Indians to enroll in courses leading to a bachelor degree in specific preprofessional areas (i.e., premedicine, predentistry).

Eligibility requirements are as follows: American Indian/Alaska Native (federal/state recognized); Accepted or enrolled in full or part time bachelor degree program to prepare for admission to an accredited medical, podiatry, dental or optometry school to meet priority staffing needs identified by IHS; Capacity to complete course of study. Intend to serve Indian people upon completion of education.

Application and priority areas available on web site. Submit application early for technical review by the Area Office; Must apply annually for up to four years full-time or up to eight years part time support. Priority given to Juniors and Seniors. Recipients who meet continued eligibility requirements are given priority consideration for additional periods of support. Awards

Annual awards vary. Funds appropriated by Congress. Must be postmarked no later than March 28, 2009 and arrive at the appropriate office by the next business day - request ligible postmark or receipt.

Continued applications must be postmarked no later than Feb. 28, 2009.

Revis completes Morris K. Udall Foundation congressional internship

by Colin Ben
Morris K. Udall Foundation

WASHINGTON, D.C., — In the summer of 2008, Tracie Revis, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, successfully completed the Morris K. Udall Foundation Native American Congressional Internship in Washington, DC. The 2008 class of interns consisted of 12 students from 11 tribes and 11 colleges and universities. Since its inception in 1996, 149 Native American/Alaska Native students from 98 tribes will have participated in the program.

Revis is pursuing a Juris Doctorate from the University of Kansas with an emphasis in Tribal Law. She has worked in Indian country in various aspects, including working with the Indian Child Welfare Act and the abuse and neglect of children. Her interests include family law, environmental law, and natural resource preservation.

Photograph submitted

Creek student Tracie Revis completed the Morris K. Udall Foundation’s summer Native American Congressional Inter

Revis completed the intensive, ten-week internship in Washington, D.C. this summer, working full-time in the office of Representative Raúl Grijalva of Arizona, where she observed the federal legislative process first-hand. Special enrichment activities provided her with opportunities to meet with key decision-makers in Washington, D.C. Regarding the internship, Revis stated, “I will cherish my Udall Internship and the connections that I have made. I am excited about what I will be able to do with this experience.”

The Morris K. Udall Foundation was authorized by Congress in 1992 to honor Congressman Udall’s legacy of public service. The Foundation is supported by a trust fund in the U.S. Treasury and contributions from the private sector. Congressman Udall served in the House of Representatives for three decades, a career distinguished by civility, integrity and consensus. He championed the rights of Native Americans and Alaska Natives, using his leadership in Congress to strengthen tribal self-governance and national environmental policy.

For more information on the Morris K. Udall Foundation, please visit www.udall.gov or contact Program Manager, Colin Ben at (520) 901-8568 or by e-mail at ben@udall.gov.

Creek educator offers Native perspective to students

by Jasa Santos
Casper Star-Tribune

CASPER, Wyo., — The University of Wyoming has developed a new graduate course designed to help educators who are teaching on American Indian reservations.

The course, taught by two of the university’s education professors, includes five classes that show educators how to blend American Indian culture and history into lesson plans and classrooms.

“We have learned that there are important advantages to bringing in local culture, language, history, traditions into the classroom,” said Tim Rush, an elementary and early childhood professor. “When we can do that for American Indian students, they do better.”

Rush and fellow professor Angela Jaime developed the course’s curriculum with tribal leaders and educators. American Indian students are very aware their stories aren’t included in modern-day history books, Rush said.

REZNET/*Tetona Dunlap*

Creek educator Marty Conrad speaks at Starrett Junior High School about the importance of preserving Native American languages.

Marty Conrad, a teacher for 35 years, works as an instruction facilitator in Lander and graduated from the pilot course this past spring. He’s also an American Indian, with Choctaw and Creek tribal roots.

“These courses really open up eyes on how to teach Native American students,” Conrad said. “There are some differences. Some people don’t know that.”

Those differences range from as how American Indian families handle the death of a loved one to standing — not sitting — during an honor song.

“Teachers sometimes need to know their (American Indian students’) background, and need to know where their students are from,” Conrad said.

IYFA and OU host Native Youth Summit and Rock and Jam Day

by Susan Arkeketa
Indian Youth and Family Alliance

NORMAN — Indian youth activities and demonstrations are being planned now for the Indian Youth and Family Summit scheduled for March 25 and 26, 2009 at the OCCE Forum on the University of Oklahoma campus.

On March 25, 2009 the whole day will be devoted to youth empowerment through workshops and speakers focused on youth and family issues. Youth councils, counselors, parents, program administrators, educators, and students are encouraged to present workshops or information on their own programs that empower youth and families.

The Summit is hosted by the Indian Youth and Family Alliance and the University of Oklahoma Native American Studies Department. The Indian Youth and Family Alliance is composed of individuals and organizations who work to promote and support Native youth and families in healthy peer, family, community and tribal relations.

The summit is hosted by the University of Oklahoma Native American Studies Department and the Indian Youth and Family Alliance. The Indian Youth and Family Alliance is composed of individuals and organizations who want to make a difference in American Indian communities.

Objectives: The objectives of the Indian Youth and Family Summit are many and include the following:

- To promote and preserve cultural, language and tradition.
- To help develop youth leadership skills and abilities.
- To promote healthy lifestyles for families and youth.
- To promote and strengthen Indian families and resources.
- To promote and strengthen tribal government leadership.

Workshop topics are not limited. Each workshop presenter must provide for their own expenses for the workshop. Workshop topics suggested include, but are not limited to: youth development and leadership, culture and language, health and mental health issues, college preparation and financing; art and media projects, grandparent and parent resources and support, juvenile justice and courts, volunteerism, federal Indian law, tribal government, alcohol and substance abuse prevention, alternative education programs, etc.

1. Submit the following attached form with the information required.

2. Workshop should provide a hands-on approach with the participants and keep participants actively involved in the learning process.

3. Workshop and Demonstrations are limited to 50 minutes.

4. Presenters must provide all materials for the workshop.

Planning committee members include: Susan Arkeketa, Jerry Bread, Veronica Pipestem, Cherrah Quiett, Dana Tiger.

Anyone who wants to volunteer with the Summit is more than welcome and if you are interested in joining the planning committee or want to present a workshop, please e-mail Susan Arkeketa for workshop information at sarkeketa@cs.com.

Tiger featured at Tulsa Indian Art Fest.
SPOTLIGHT - B5

Mvskoke Bowshooters keeping tradition alive
SPORTS - B

FEATURES

SECTION B • www.themuscogeecreeknation.com • February 2009

To our Nation's Capital

• Another six weeks of winter weather to come

Photo courtesy of Thompson Gouge

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound Building was covered in a thick, white layer of snow and ice on Wed., Jan. 28 when offices were closed due to inclement weather.

READY FOR SPRING

The offices located on the main complex of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation were closed due to the accumulation of a wintery mix of snow, sleet and ice that showered much of Oklahoma during the last week of Jan. Offices re-opened their doors again on Wed., Jan. 28 at 11 a.m., where some employees found it difficult to get to work, braving the icy roads.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Emergency Management Team along with McIntosh County Emergency Management opened a shelter in Eufaula at the Indian Community Center during the storm. The shelter was available for residents within the Eufaula area without power. For more information you may contact the Eufaula Indian Community Center at (918) 689-4111.

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

EM takes on the storm

•Responds to the crises across Indian Country

by Thompson Gouge
Public Relations Representative

OKMULGEE – The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Emergency Management team has been on the road the past days and nights setting up a shelter in Eufaula and making deliveries when needed. The winter storms moved through the Green Country area Monday afternoon of Jan. 26.

That same day, Chief Ellis also declared a State of Emergency throughout the jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. From delivering supplies shelters to picking up tribal citizens being released from the hospital, the Emergency Management Team is always on the road during the worst time of weather. Keeping open lines of communications with the MCN Emergency Management, I've learned that they do not have the luxury of just relaxing staying home during this time. You will always see that Silver pick up truck up and down the highway providing help not just to tribal citizens, but all other people during a disaster.

The MCN Emergency Management had a meeting with the Tribal Complex Directors and Managers just hours before the Principal Chief closed the offices in order to allow employees safely drive home.

This meeting allowed Executive Director Claude Sumner share inclement weather policies and procedures of how each employee should be notified of the complex closing. As a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation I would like to thank the Emergency Management Team for their hard work through this winter storm for helping not only this tribe but all the communities throughout Creek Nation.

Photo courtesy of Thompson Gouge

Pictured above from left to right are Tess Jimboy, James Nichols, Phil Booker and Sylvia Tulsa of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Emergency Management Team who helped out during the winter storm of 2009.

Artists still needed for 2009 Creek Festival

by Brian On-The-Hill
MCN Tourism and Recreation

OKMULGEE — Tourism and Recreation would like to extend an invitation to all artists in the chartered Creek communities to participate in the 2009 Creek Festival in order to bring more integrity and authenticity to the arts and crafts at the Festival.

If you or someone you know is an artist or craftsman, please consider purchasing a 15'x20' booth space at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival in June 2009. All registered Creek citizens may rent a 15'x20' booth space for $60, upon proof of citizenship. All other Native Americans (non-Creek citizens) will be charged $80 (must present valid CDIB card), Non-Natives will pay $125 and a $150 fee will be charged for commercial vendors.

For more information, contact Brian On-The-Hill at (918) 732-7993 to be put on the mailing list to receive booth applications which will be mailed this month. The deadline for submission of applications is 5 p.m., Mon., March 30, 2009.

SWAT selling Native Valentine's Day cards

by Cassandra Harjo
Tobacco Prevention Program

OKEMAH — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program is so proud of the SWAT team's hard work and accomplishments in 2008 through leadership and advocacy. We are looking forward to another great year of activities and events.

Last year, our youth got to take a little time away from work and education to go to a Driller's baseball game for a little fun. This year, we would like to take them on another trip of fun-filled activities. As we continue to have our monthly meetings, we will let the youth decide where they would like to go for their "SWEET TREAT DAY."

SEE SWEET - B8

This and other Valentine's Day cards will be sold in order to fund upcoming youth activities for the Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) team.
- Tobacco Prevention Program

Tulsa Indian Coalition Against Racism supports SB-765

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The Tulsa Indian Coalition Against Racism (TICAR) hosted a press conference in support of Senate Bill 765 on Fri., Jan. 30 at the Tulsa Press Club located at 415 S. Boston in Tulsa.

Proposed by Sen. Eason McIntyre (D), SB-765 calls for reform of the usage of school or athletic names that may be found to be offensive to Native American tribes across the United States.

In the past, there has been a dispute as to whether national team names that have been around for decades such as the 'Kansas City Chiefs,' 'Atlanta Braves,' and 'Washington Redskins,' were offensive to tribes.

The trend has even caught on at some high school and colleges as well, with the recent switch of Oklahoma's Northeastern State University switching from the 'Redmen' to the 'Riverhawks" in 2007.

"I'm not a redskin, and I'm not a savage; I'm a person," said Louis Gray, president of the Tulsa Indian Coalition Against Racism. "And when you objectify people in a negative way, it has meaning and it changes people."

SEE MASCOT - B8

HISTORY/CULTURE B2
Language program update: Feb. language activity

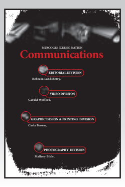
RELIGION B3
United Methodist Church addresses economic challenges

LIFESTYLES B4
Summer Nicole Hicks

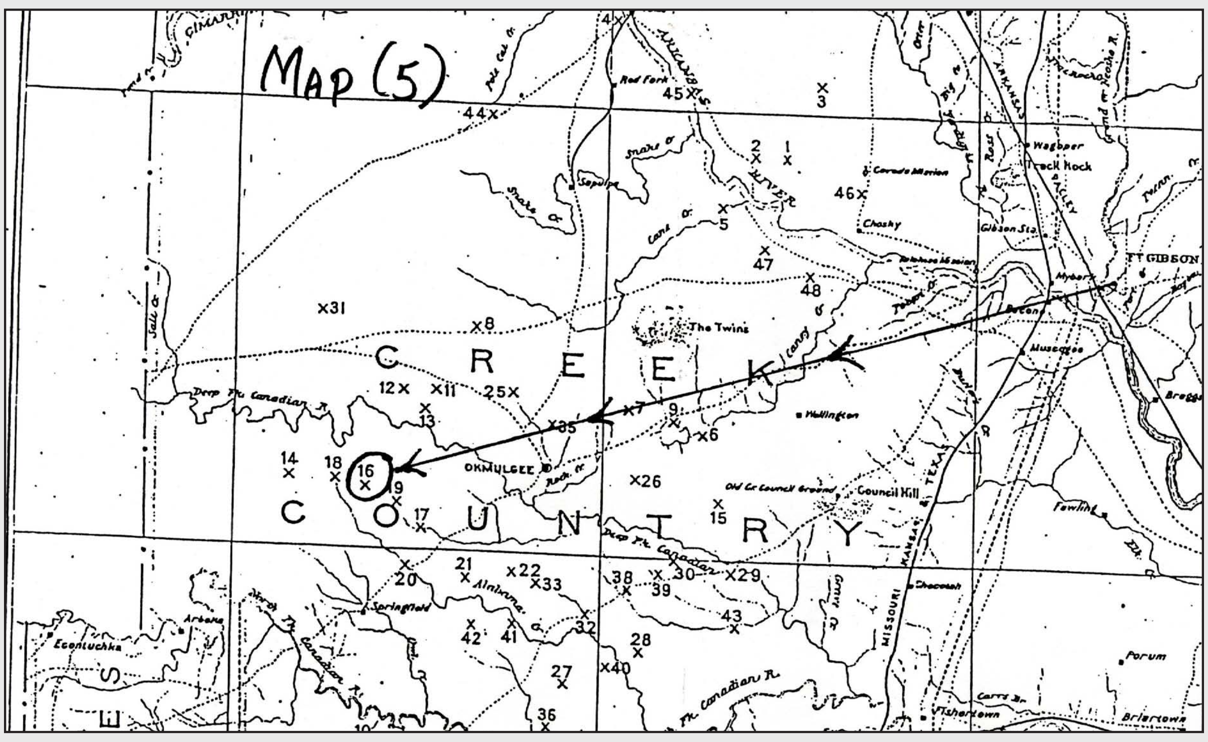
SPOTLIGHT B5
Longhorn returns to MCN Band

OBITUARIES B6
Harry Long

JUMPS B8
Communications Ad



History Series: The relationship of Pakan Tallahassee (Peach Ground) Tribal Town



Arrows indicate approximate locations of current day Pakan Tallahassee (Peach Ground) Map (5), *Perryman's.*

by Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Cultural Preservation

MCINTOSH COUNTY — The Pakan Tallahassee Tribal Town was a member if the Upper Creek division of the Muscogee Confederacy. Although stated as being a distinct people from the Muscogee, they do now speak the Muscogee tongue. No notable information has been found to confirm that they are definitely distinct. Ohland Morton, Eastern Oklahoma College, Okla., Some Facts Regarding the Creek Town in Indian Territory. Wm. Bartram's List of Maskoki Towns, from his "Travels", pp. 462-64. Swanton, Early History of the Creek Indians and their Neighbors, pp. 272-274.

This report locates the Paken Tallahassee on Hatchet Creek in the state of Alabama between the Coosa and the Tallapoosa Rivers in 1717. Swanton, The Indian of the Southeastern United States, p.170: See Map (1).

The Paken Tallahassee Tribal Town was designated as being on the White or Peace side of the Fire. Morris E. Opler, the Creek Indian Towns of Oklahoma in 1937, p. 68.

No movement previous to removal is recorded for the Paken Tallahassee Tribal Town. As reflected in Swanton's map indicating movements, we must assume by this record that Paken Tallahassee maintained this location until removal. See map (1).

To the writer's regret nothing is recorded on the removal of this tribal town and it's route of emigration. Many tribal towns have not been noted by writers in this particular account. The writer is confident that the information lies obscurely in government record not yet available through the Creek Nation Culture Office. This lack of information however does not impede the fact of arrival and settlement in Indian Territory.

The Pakan Tallahassee Tribal Town settles after removal in the southeastern area of Creek territory. They are noted as one of two tribal towns that have not had other movements in Creek Nation since their first settlement. They are now located some three miles east of Vernon, Oklahoma. Morris Opler, the Creek Indians Towns of Oklahoma in 1937, p. 68. See Map (2), Perryman, 1891.

Preliminary sketch of the Pakan Tallahasse (Peach Ground) Tribal Town

by Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Cultural Preservation

MCINOSH COUNTY — The information for this report presents an interesting dilemma for this trbal town in that recorded entry does not draw a simple straight historical line from Pakan Tallahassee's earliest record to the present. Swaonton has recorded and presented a question as to the continuity of the original Pakana in the tribe in the old Tribalt own of the Pakana people. he states that there was a tribe called the Pakana tribe that was possibly a distinct tribe from the Muscogee and the present day paka Tallahassee people. however, thispoint is a age ashe does not specify what linguistic stock these ancient people were. It is definite tht the Pakana ancient town. As the story is presented, the distinct Pakana tribe separarted andone part enetually settled with the Alabama tribe in east. Swanton says that the remnant of the distinct people that stayed behind to intermarrry with other tribal towns, especially Abihka. he further states that the Abihka is said to have a tradition that stats the Pakana as being a distinct tribe that lost their distinction through such intermarriage and thus became assimilated in this manner. No other knowledge is left regarding them, only that they retained the name of the ancient habitation.

According to the information available by historic record, it is said by many modern Creeks that Pakana may have separated from Abihka. This was no doubt due to to the Pakana tendency for intermarriage with other neighboring tribal towns, especially Abihka since they were geographically in close proximity to each other.

The modern Pakan Tallahassee also have a tradition which says is separated from the Pakana.

Because of these conflicting traditions, this writer has taken care to consider the data from similarities or rather dissimilarities between these two grounds. An important factor to consider is that Abihka is marked as being one of the original foundation towns of the Muscogee as told in"Chekilli's" legend, the oldest migration legend told and recorded.

The seating of clans, placement of medicine vessels, the position of the ball pole, and the principle clans differ between these two tribal towns. It must be noted that related towns would have prominent similarities as mentioned. There are the basic similiarties as with all other square grounds, however the prominent similarities taht would indicate a relationship does not appear to reinforce the traditions of both Abihka and Pakan Tallahassee.

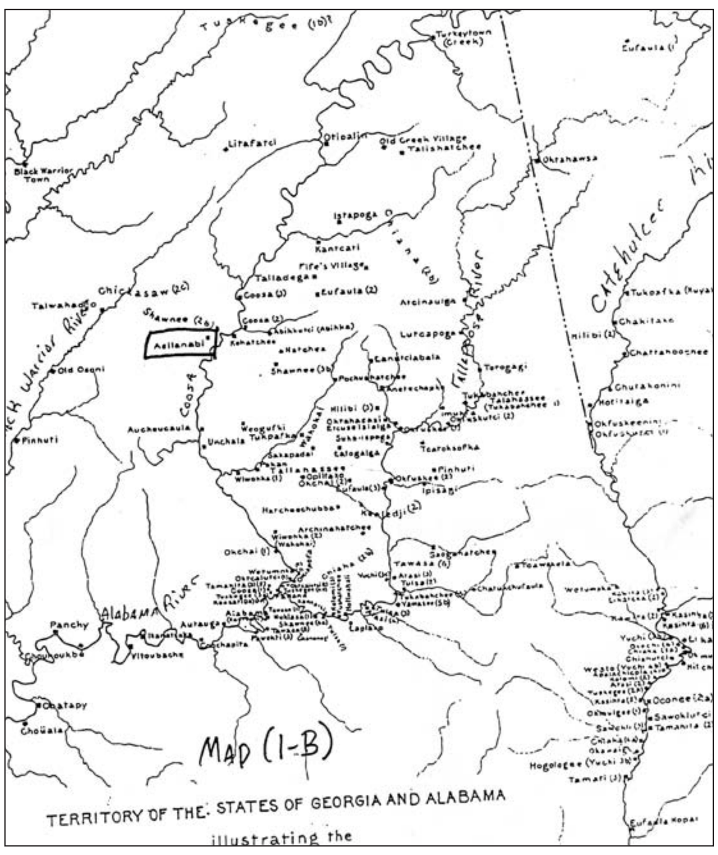
More information on this traditinal story is presented in the report on the Abihka Tribal Town. History indicates taht at some time before 1733, the Pakana Old town was descended from the Old Pakana people.

By 1738, this division of Pakan Tallahassee is listed in the records of Bartrams, Swan and Hawkins. they are also found on the census of 1832.

There is more inforamtion presented singularly by Swanton that any hisoric writer and it is the sole source for this preliminary.

The old square ground diagrams by Swanton presents a definite similarity between the square grounds of Wakokai, Weogufki and Pakan tallahassee. Also noted is information on these three towns relationship. The tribal town of Wakokai is said to the the mother of Weogufki and Pakan Tallahassee. No further infomation is given on this aspect of relationship onl that these tribal towns were located close to each other in the east. They seemed to have retained this preference in early Creek Nations of Oklahoma. The earliest known home of these Indians was on Hatchet Creek near the junction of Coosa and Tallapoosa Rivers in 1717. Swanton, the Indians of the Southeastern United States, pp.170. Swanton, Early Histgory of the Creek Indians oand their Neightbors, pp. 272-274.

Pakan Tallahassee's current location is located west of Hanna, OK. The current Mekko is Roger Butler of the Wotko Clan.



LANGUAGEUPDATES

Planning ahead for summer's immersion camp

by Kathleen Coachman
Language Program Manager

OKMULGEE — Hensci Readers! Plans are currently underway for this summer's Immersion Camp. The Camp will once again be held at Western Hills Guest Ranch, located in the Sequoyah State Park, 8 miles east of Wagoner, OK. Tentative date is June 01-04, 2009. This year's target group is for students who are currently in the 7th, 8th, and 9th grades (School Year 2008-2009). We had a great time last summer, so if you are interested in attending this summer, call the language to receive your application. We will accept application until April 30, 2009.

We received no entries for last month's activity page, therefore, no winners. You can't win unless you enter. I made this month's activity page a little easier. So put on your Mvskoke Thinking Caps on, fill out the page and return to us to enter into a drawing. The winner will be announced in next month's paper.

MVSKOKE LANGUAGE ACTIVITY

Name:______________________________
Address:______________________________
____

BASIC CONVERSION;

Below is a list of conversation phrases: Write in the correct answer in the blank provided.

(A) Mvskoke opvnakvn kerretv komis.
(B) Estvmen ayestskv?
(C) Mvkapvt oklanet os.
(D) Naken estometskv?
(E) Toknawv palen ocis.

1. That coat is brown.____________________

2. Where are you (one) going?____________________

3. I hope (wish) to learn Creek ____________________

4. I have ten dollars ____________________

5. What are you doing?____________________

Complete and send to:

Mvskoke Language Program
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447

MVSKOKE LANGUAGE PROGRAM
SUMMER IMMERSION CAMP
2009

ATTENTION: 7th, 8th, & 9th GRADE STUDENTS

JOIN US IN LEARNING THE MVSKOKE WAY IN A FUN WAY

WHEN: JUNE 01-04, 2009 (Tentative Date)
WHERE: WESTERN HILLS LODGE
SEQUOYAH RESORT PARK
LOCATED: 9 miles East of Wagoner on Hwy 51
APPLICATION DEADLINE : April 30, 2009
SEND APPLICATION TO: Mvskoke Language Program,

CULTURAL NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Peach Ground hosting Valentine's Day bingo

HANNA — Pakan Tallahassee (Peach Ground) will be hosting a Valentines day benefit Bingo on Sat., Feb. 14 at 1 p.m. All proceeds will go toward the Pakan Tallahassee (Peach Ground) Ceremonial Fund.

The event will be held at the Hanna Indian Community Center, approximately three miles east of the Hanna Post office. Everyone Welcome! For more information contact Betsy Taryole at (918) 652-6588.

Fish Pond hosts dance benefiting scholarship fund

SAND SPRINGS, OK - Sand Springs Indian Education will be hosting a Stomp Dance on Sat., Feb. 28, 2009, from 7 p.m. - 11 p.m., at the Clyde Boyd Middle School at 305 W. 35th St., in Sand Springs. Fish Pond Ceremonial Ground will be the host Ground and proceeds benefit the Jerre Brokaw/Alice Kemp Memorial Scholarship fund. For more information contact the Indian education office at (918) 246-1583.

FAITH-BASED NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Sermon building conference

STILLWELL — On Feb. 28, pastors and preachers from all over the state are going to meet at Calvary Baptist Church for a sermon building conference. All preachers, no matter how long in the ministry will benefit from this conference. Not only will we have great teaching, we will also have a time of great preaching as well. Dr. Emerson Falls (Pastor of Glorieta Baptist, and President of our Convention), Roger Haney (Pastor of First Baptist Stilwell), Lit MacIntosh (Pastor of First Baptist Okemah), Brad Hawkins (Pastor of First Baptist Okeene) will be "shuckin corn" for us, encouraging us, challenging us, and modeling for us expository preaching!

We will start at 10 a.m., and be finished at 7p.m. Two meals will be provided. This is going to be an awesome time of learning and encouragement!

Thank you for service

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference of the United Methodist Church would like to thank the Muscogee Creek Nation for all that they do for the faith community within their nation.

The assistance that the tribe gives the churches at Christmas enables, especially the smaller membership churches, the ability to provide a meaningful Christmas experience for the children who some may not be able to have within their homes. This is truly a blessing that you extend to the churches.

The assistance that you give for buildings, upkeep and transportation is also commendable. Through this assistance churches have been able to reach out and touch more lives.

Thank you again and may God's blessings be upon all the endeavors of the Muscogee Creek Nation and its leaders.

- Josephine Deere

Wild onion dinners

Little Cussetah Church — March 21, 11:00 top 3:00 p.m., $8.00 Adult and $5.00 Children (per plate).

Concharty Methodist Church — March 28, 11:00 to 3:00 p.m., $8.00 Adult and $5.00 Children (per plate). Indian Falls Creek Update

Indian Falls Creek update

OKMULGEE — Dates For Indian Falls Creek are set for July 27 - 31, 2009. We are seeking churches to be part of a statewide candy sell. Contact Victor Cope at 405-598-8720 or e-mail ndnrev@aol.com for information concerning Indian Falls Creek 2009. If your church needs any help coming to camp please let us know ASAP.

Haikey makes a difference 'N.O.W.'

Sunrise Ross
Haikey Chapel

MUSKOGEE — As tradition throughout OIMC, churches prepare for the Christmas Program event of the season. In April 2008, the N.O.W., Committee felt the need to reach out into the Indian community in some way, so they tracked down the needs of the Murrow Indian Children's Home located in Muskogee, Okla.

To their surprise they found Alicia (who happened to be a Muscogee Creek) who needed to have a sponsor. The committee challenged the congregation one Sunday each month to give from the heart, and not from obligation to help sponsor little Ms. Alicia and to their surprise the congregation met the challenge.

One committee member (Karen Barrett) thought how awesome it would be to actually meet this little Ms. Alicia in person and the pastor of Haikey Chapel (Rev. July Tecumseh) helped make that wish come true. Rev. Tecumseh visited the home to invite not only Ms. Alicia to the Christmas program he also invited all the children of Murrow Indian Children's home and what a treat that was for the congregation!

Special gifts were purchased by individual members to give to all children of the home. As the children came to enjoy the night's program, they were totally unaware of special gifts just for them. The congregation enjoyed the program as well as the refreshments provided afterwards. Haikey Chapel got the biggest gift of all, when the children were gathered back into the sanctuary to open their special gifts from the members and the look on the girls' faces was priceless. One of the girls made the statement "this is the best Christmas I ever had, thank you for inviting us."

To know that some of the simplest of things that our children take advantage of, i.e. a new pair of jeans, little jewelry trinkets, or even a new blouse, can bring such smiles on the face of a not so fortunate child. One of the things that the N.O.W., committee wanted to show the children of Haikey Chapel was is just how good things are in their little world and also how we as a church can make a simple difference in some else's life.

Peace with Justice grant applications due Feb. 15

Media Release
Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Feb. 15 is the deadline to apply for a Peace with Justice grant from the United Methodist General Board of Church and Society (GBCS).

Funding for this program is generated through the Peace with Justice Special Sunday offering of The United Methodist Church. One of six Special Sundays in the denomination, Peace with Justice "witnesses to God's demands for a faithful, just, disarmed and secure world." Peace with Justice Sunday is June 7 in 2009.

Peace with Justice grants are awarded annually. In 2008, awards totaled $51,000. Grant applicants must be either a United Methodist or other affiliated organization, or an ecumenical group working with and through at least one United Methodist agency or organization. Applicants must work toward achieving at least one of the following objectives:

Assist United Methodists in understanding and responding to violence and militarism, and in moving and leading nations and peoples to reconciliation, transformation, and redemption.

Involve and develop principal leaders among United Methodists and enjoin the general public in efforts to end conflicts, human rights violations and violent aggression around the world.

Promote just national and international policies and actions (governmental and non-governmental) seeking to address poverty and restore communities.

Support policies that promote systematic economic justice and the self-development of peoples, in particular to respond to the disproportionate effect of injustices on racial, indigenous and ethnic persons.

Preference will be given to institutions related to the United Methodist Church, then to first-time requests and, finally, to those including an advocacy component in their program or project.

Applications will be evaluated at the March meeting of GBCS's Board of Directors.

For more information or to request an application form also, contact Mark Harrison, GBCS director of Peace with Justice, (202) 488-5645. Applicants may seek assistance in filling out the form, which is available by contacting Marvlyn Scott, (202) 488-5643.

United Methodist Church addresses economic challenges

Reprinted from the Advocate
Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference

OKLAHOMA CITY — Economic challenges still lie ahead, but the church has weathered similar downturns. That was one of the conclusions reached by members of The General Council on Finance and Administration (GCFA) Economic Advisory Committee after its first meeting Friday, December 12, 2008, in Nashville, Tennessee.

The Committee is comprised of clergy and lay leaders and includes economists, financial experts, researchers, and church leaders from across the country. It is still in the early stages of developing an outlook for the coming months. Based upon current data and some assumptions of some future events, the group anticipates the economy should be in recovery by the second half of 2009.

The current recession, the weakness in the financial sector, and the downturn in the stock markets have introduced financial challenges for our congregations. We are all concerned about the financial future of our local churches and our denomination as a whole.

It is important to remember that these challenges are similar to those our churches faced during past recessions. Although this time will not be easy for many, and will be very difficult for some, the assembled experts anticipate an economic recovery beginning in the latter months of 2009.

In the United States, giving at the local church level, adjusted for inflation, tends to decline during recessions, and then increase in the years following. During the recession of the early 1980's, giving dropped 2.43% from 1978 to 1979, then declined another

3.11% in 1980, and another .31% in 1981.

Giving then increased an average of 1.19% for the years 1982-1989. During the recession of the early 1990's, giving dropped 1.04% in 1990, then increased an average of 2.12% over the next 12 years.

Following the recession of the early 2000's, giving leveled off again, increasing by 0.19% in 2003 and 0.44% in 2004. Over the last 30 years, local church giving has increased at a 1.28% average annual rate, adjusted for inflation.

Work throughout our denomination continues. Through the generous and faithful giving by local churches to the general funds, The United Methodist Church continues to make a vital difference in the world. We do this through mission programs like the ZOE Ministry in Huye, Rwanda where AIDS orphans are working to grow their own food to earn an income, pay off schooling, gain self-sufficiency, and, in turn, help out others who are in need. In Pittsburgh, PA we are using text messaging and other forms of news media in innovative ways to connect young people with our churches. We are making an impact on important legislation like the Second Chance Act, which provides vital federal funding to organizations working to transition people from prisons and jails back to their communities. We are building up a new generation of faith-filled leaders to go out and start new congregations and revitalize existing churches around the world.

We know that many are wondering if it is still "business as usual" for the general agencies of the church. As annual conferences struggle to fully pay general funds apportionments, we have been asked what the general church can do to lessen the financial load on annual conferences.

The Discipline provides few options to change the approved apportionment factors for the coming 2009-2012 quadrennium. Although the formula is designed to adapt to changing financial conditions in the local church, the historical nature of the statistical data we use in calculations means that this formula may not exactly reflect current economic conditions. We will continue to look for ways to ease the financial burdens of our annual conferences through any means possible.

We do not believe this is the time for "business as usual" for any United Methodist entity. The leaders of the general agencies are adjusting their spending plans to adapt to the still-emerging economic picture. We will, through the Economic Advisory Committee, continue to study and monitor economic conditions and regularly report our findings to the leadership of the agencies.

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BIRTHDAYS

Jayme Nicole Chuckluck

COMMERCE — Jayme Chuckluck of Commerce was nominated by the Criminal Justice Club to compete for the NEO A&M 2008 homecoming queen. She is a Criminal Justice Major and also Native American Studies major. She is the daughter of Greg and Felicia (Haynes) Chuckluck. She is the granddaughter of Felix and Gloria Haynes of Okmulgee and Rev. Bridge and Linda Chuckluck of Salina. She is also the great-granddaughter of the late Jay and Annie Haynes and Bridge And Annie Chuckluck.

Jayme and her family want to thank Cheneena Davis and her staff for all of the assistance they have given her to help further her education. Jayme will receive a degree in Criminal Justice and Native American Studies in May of 2009.

Wyatt Gregory Chuckluck

COMMERCE — Wyatt Gregory Chuckluck turned 11 on Dec 23. He is in the fourth grade at Alexander Elementary. He had a birthday dinner at Charlie's Chicken with family and friends.

He has an older sister, Jayme, and a younger sister, Annie. He is the son of Greg and Felicia (Haynes) Chuckluck.

Wyatt is the grandson of Felix and Gloria Haynes of Okmulgee and Rev. Bridge and Linda Chuckluck of Salina.

He is also the great-grandson of the late Jay and Annie Haynes and Bridge and Annie Chuckluck.

April Rochelle Semihoye Hester

CINCINNATI, Ohio, — April celebrated her 25th birthday in Cincinnati where she resides. April works as a hairstylist and part-time student at Northern Kentucky University. She is studying history.

Parents are Sophia Swain and Mark C. Hester.

Siblings are Amanda, Josh, Michelle and Brandon.

Maternal grandparents are Agnes Lewis and Ray C. Swain.

Paternal grandparents are Patricia Galvez and Don Hester.

Maternal great-grandparents are Sally Jacobs and David B. Lewis.

Amanda Danielle Shawnnee Lewis-Hester

CINCINNATI, Ohio, — Amanda celebrated her 25th birthday in Cincinnati where she resides. Amanda is a student at Northern Kentucky University and is seeking her degree in Social work.

Parents are Sophia Swain and Mark C. Hester.

Siblings are April, Josh, Michelle and Brandon.

Maternal grandparents are Agnes Lewis and Ray C. Swain.

Paternal grandparents are Patricia Galvez and Don Hester.

Maternal great-grandparents are Sally Jacobs and David B. Lewis.

BIRTHS

Freeman Dominic "Lucvce" Wamego

EUFAULA — Freeman "Lucvce" Wamego was born October 24, 2008 to G. Micco Wamego and Sarah Lance-Lawson.

He is the grandson of Madeline Lance and Ella Bailey. He is also the great grandson of Mary, Rhoda, and Toney Barnett of Eufaula.

Lucvce is a member of the Bird Clan and his Tribal Town is Yardeka.

Joshua Lewis YvhvLane Swain-Hester

CINCINNATI, Ohio, — Joshua attended Bacone College for his first year then transferred to Cincinnati Christian University where he resides. He has taken breaks to go on mission trips to Yakama Indian Reservation, India, Nepal and South Africa. His desire is to be a missionary.

Parents are Sophia Swain and Mark C. Hester.

Siblings are April, Amanda, Michelle and Brandon.

Maternal grandparents are Agnes Lewis and Ray C. Swain.

Paternal grandparents are Patricia Galvez and Don Hester.

Maternal great-grandparents are Sally Jacobs and David B. Lewis.

Summer Nicole Hicks

SHAWNEE — Summer Nicole Hicks was born Dec. 23, 2008 at Unity North Hospital in Shawnee. She weighed 8 pounds 9 ounces and was 20 inches long.

She is the daughter of Brandie Peacore and Jordan Hicks and the granddaughter of Carol Hicks and the late David Peacore, and Donna King and Jimmy King.

She is of the Sweet Potato Clan and Muddy Waters Tribal Town.

Asia Nicole-Ashley Samuel

CLAREMORE — Asia Nicole-Ashley Samuel was born at Claremore Indian Hospital on Jan. 5, 2009. She weighed 8 pounds 11 ounces and was 20 ½ inches in length.

Siblings are Kristian, Ruby, Uriah, Mable and Aerielle.

Maternal grandparents are Norman and Cody Daniel.

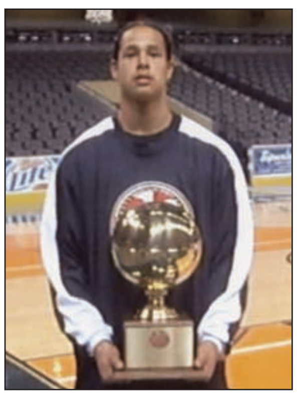
Paternal grandparents are Ray and Betty Samuel.

Maternal great-grandparents are Johnny Daniel and Norma Bible.

Paternal great-grandparents are Lois and Madeline Watashe.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Randy Lee July Jr.



TULSA— Randy Lee July Jr. was selected as one of the top 16 Native student/athletes from an elite group of individuals to participate in the 2008 Native Elite Sports (N.E.S) in June of 08. This was his second year being selected.

It was the third year fro the national event an coaches from across the country were in attendance to scout Prospective players. The two day event was held at Tyson Events Center in Sioux City, Iowa. Players played an All-Star game, a Three Point Contest and a Slam Dunk Contest.

He participated in the Slam Dunk Contest and took first place and received the title of being "National Native American Slam Dunk Champ", for the second year in a row.

He is currently attending Sterling College and is on the Varsity Basketball Team.

Leslie Lindsey Hicks

TULSA— Graduated from the Community Care College Tulsa in the fall of 2008. She was recognized and acknowledged for the outstanding student in the Health Service Administration.

Leslie we know that your dad would have been more than happy to had been at your graduation. He always knew you could do it! We wish you well in your new field.

Leslie is the daughter of Alice Buckley Lindsey and the late Thomas J. Lindsey of Bristow. She is also the granddaughter of the late Columbia Lindsey, and Amy Jose Lindsey of Oklahoma City, the late Fannie McNac Buckley and the late Sam Buckley both of Weleetka.

Leslie is of the Deer Clan and belongs to Hickory Ground.

Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:

Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)____________
Name: ____
Address:_______________________________________
Date of Birth: __________________________________
Theme of the party:______________________________
Parents: _______________________________________
Siblings: _______________________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
School: ____
Clan: ____
Tribal Town:____________________________________

Birth:

Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)____________
Name: ____
Address:_______________________________________
Date of Birth: __________________________________
Name of Hospital: _______________________________
Weight:______ pounds ______ ounces______inches
Parents: _______________________________________
Siblings: _______________________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ____
Tribal Town:____________________________________

Announcements:

Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)____________
Name: ____
Address:_______________________________________
Parents: _______________________________________
Siblings: _______________________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ____
Tribal Town:____________________________________
Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

One of those markers of giant political shifts occurred last week, as Erin Thin Elk Contreras drove me across the homelands of her people, after picking me up from the Sioux Falls Airport. Her bright spirit stirred me from the sleepless haze of my all-night flight, and I remain impressed by the way she walked nimbly over ice and snow in high heels as she wheeled my suitcase to her car. (Now that's a skill, another new category for the Olympics!) For the first time in U.S. history, Barack Obama, a visionary leader and a black man was inaugurated as the 44th President of the United States.

We tuned to listen to Barack Obama's inauguration speech on the AM station, as we headed out for Vermillion over sunlit plains. Our ears perched close to listen as he accepted the presidency of this very young and troubled country. In Obama's voice the whole world heard that his mind is clear, free of clouded and contentious knots. We appreciated the finely crafted oratory of Obama's speech, and the careful choice of words spoken to bring American citizens together into a vision of helpfulness and compassion. There is a direct connection between the clarity and resonance of one's speech and the shine of character. In Obama we have the gift of an intelligent man. How refreshing. You can hear in his voice that he listens to the ancestors.

The last election gave us a man who said: "Our enemies are innovative and resourceful, and so are we. They never stop thinking about new ways to harm our country and our people, and neither do we."—Washington, D.C., Aug. 5, 2004. He left the country in a wreck.

Many questions surfaced as I listened, and later watched the inaugural events on television in my hotel room. Will there ever, or can there ever be an indigenous president? Where are our indigenous leaders, those who can bring us together, can inspire us? We need those who can see with Seventh-Generation eyes. We need to see beyond skin color, past laws and rules that go in and out of season, such as the recent attempts to throw away children and grandchildren because they don't have the requisite amount of blood. (We aren't pedigreed dogs. We are human beings.)

Very early the next morning Erin picked me up to drive me back to the airport. At twenty-nine she's a very young administrator in the university's diversity program, the Indian student advisor, and is the mother of three young children. The youngest, not much over two-years-old, dozed in her car seat as we drove East in the dark.

Erin and I talked carefully in the dawning morning. At dawn the crack between worlds opens. This day we carried hope for our country. And this day, like every day has a soul. We shared stories that mattered to us. She spoke carefully, with clarity. In her I heard the old people. I heard the young, smart and beautiful young Lakota woman whose life is a balancing act between the eternal and the everyday. In her I saw that we are growing our indigenous leaders. They are among us.

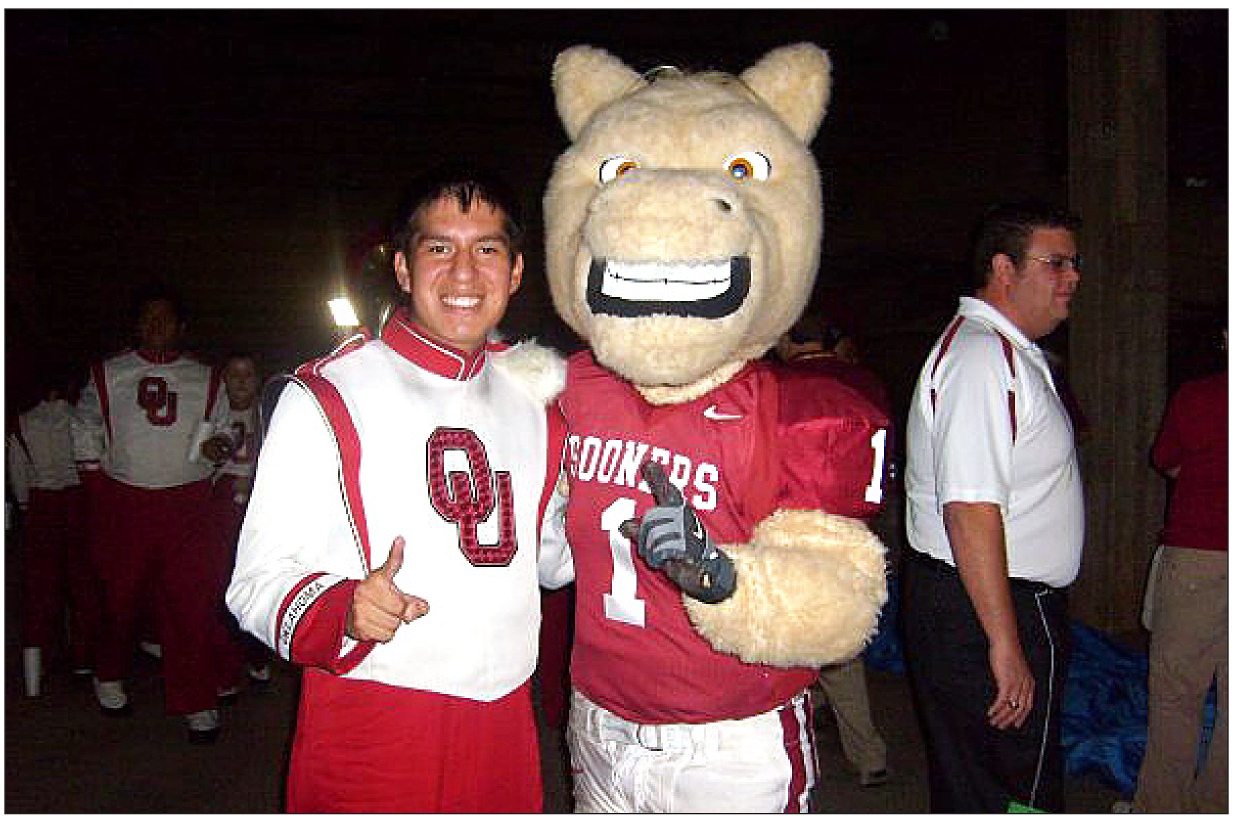
Longhorn returns to MCN Band

by Angel Ellis

MNN Senior Writer

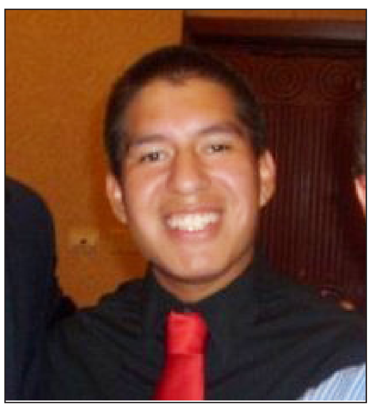
NORMAN — Lee Longhorn-Bucktrot, son of Alvin and Patsy Bucktrot, is proud to announce that he will be returning as the music director for the 2009 "Pride of Mvskoke Nation" Marching Band. Longhorn will be leading the band in a performance during the 2009 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Parade and Festival.

Under his leadership, the band will be planning various activities and scheduling performances as the opportunities become available. Some possible musical selections for this year's band may include such favorites as "Highlights from West Side Story," "Pop, Rock and Roll," "Movies of the 80's," "The Incredibles," "Latin Fire!," "Veterans Salute," "Dance (featuring music from each of the decades of the 20th Century)," "Disney Heroes and Villains" and "At the Tony's (selections from Broadway)."



Photograph submitted by Lee Longhorn

Pictured above is Lee Longhorn in his "Pride of Oklahoma" Marching Band uniform along with one of the University of Oklahoma's mascot Boomer. Lee will also serve as the 2009 Music Leader for the Pride of Mvskoke Nation Marching Band.



"I'm proud of all the Mvskoke students who are enrolled in a music ensemble and continue to study music and look forward to working the musical students and parents of the band." - Lee Longhorn

Longhorn brings an exciting background in both band and musical performance. This intriguing young Muscogee (Creek) citizen is currently a junior at the University of Oklahoma where he majors in both Native American Studies and Journalism with a minor in Anthropology. In addition to his studies, Longhorn is an Alto/Tenor Saxophone player and a three-year member of the "Pride of Oklahoma" Marching Band.

In a recent letter to the Muscogee Nation News, Longhorn said, "I am proud of all the Mvskoke students who are enrolled in a music ensemble and continue to study music." He continued with, "I look forward to working with the musical students and parents of the band members, as well as the music that the band produces."

This bright young advocate of music for native youth is seeking tribal members who are interested in joining the band. Prospective members, of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation or other tribes, should have one-year of experience in a musical ensemble and their own instrument(s). Prospective participants of the band should contact Melinda Deeringwater in the Creek Nation Housing Department at 918-759-4172.

Participation in the band is open to all Native American students who meet the prerequisite criteria and reside within the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. If you would like to contact Lee Longhorn for more information about the band, you may do so by e-mail at Lee.A.Longhorn-1@ou.edu.

Tiger featured at Tulsa Indian Art Fest.

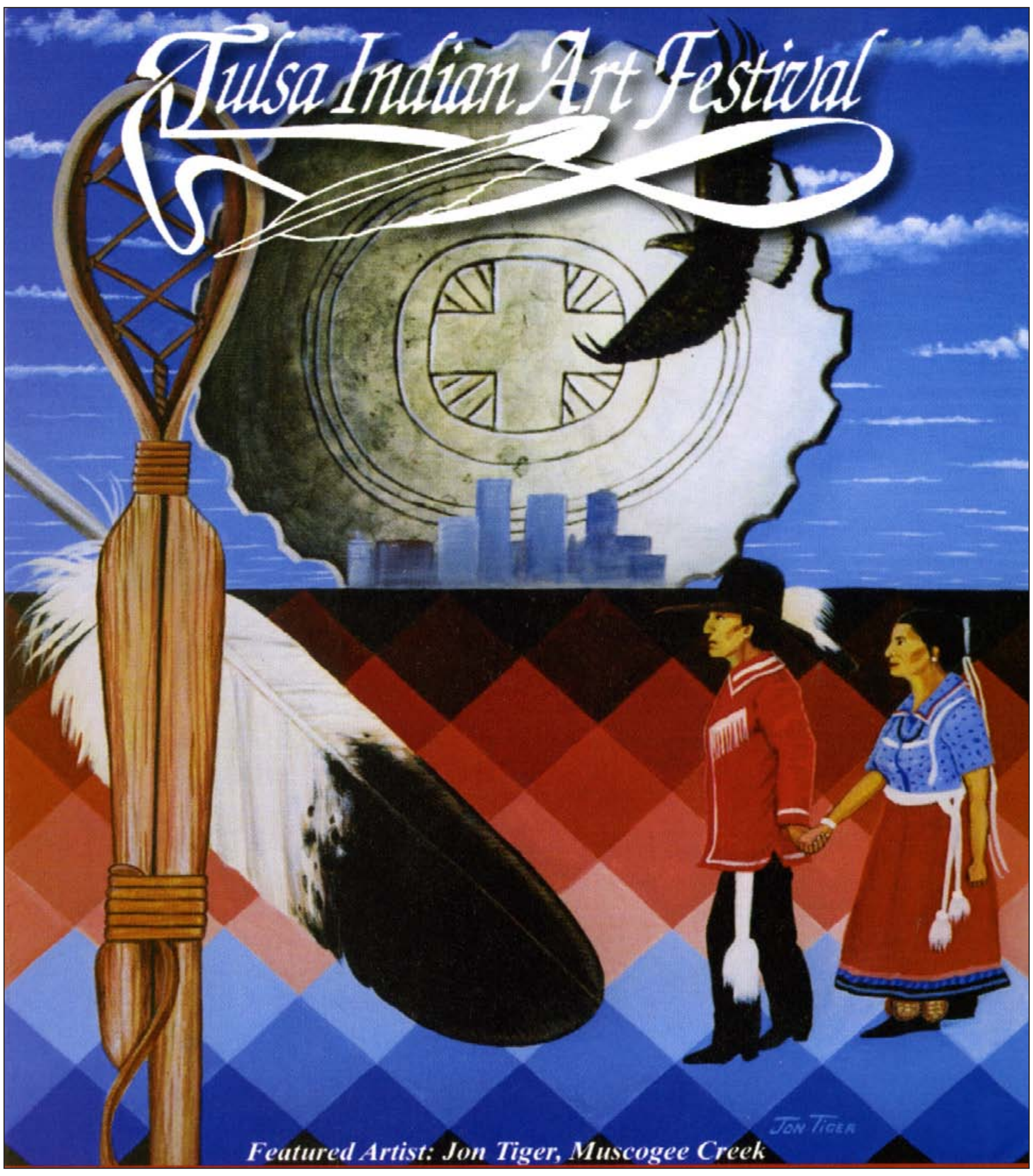
by Angel Ellis

MNN Senior Writer

TULSA — Twenty three years ago when The American Indian Theater presented "The Trial of Standing Bear", Randolph Mantooth traveled from California to Tulsa to portray the character "Standing Bear". He commented to Monetta Trepp that, since Tulsa is in the heart of Indian Country, Indian artwork should play a prominent role in the city. Due to a lacking presence of native artwork, Monetta and five of her friends ultimately conceived the Tulsa Indian Art Festival in 1986 during a lunch meeting. The goal of the festival was to showcase the outstanding artwork of Oklahoma's Indian Country and to create an awareness of the rich and diverse cultures of American Indians. At that time, there was no other annual Indian fine art market in Oklahoma. Without an existing infrastructure of money and artist networks, the founders relied only on their faith and determination.

On March 20, 1987, the first Tulsa Indian Art Festival was held in the Pavilion at Expo Square in Tulsa. Ben Shoemaker, the featured artist, donated his creation, "The First Night", to the Theatre Company. Approximately 40 artists contributed exhibits for the festival and nearly 100 dancers participated in the Pow Wow. The Grand Entry enthralled each spectator at the festival; many local Indians arrived in traditional dress and participated in the activities. Such a magical event is still remembered after 23 years.

The 2009 featured artist, Jon Tiger, will available for poster signing during the Opening Night Celebration, which begins at 7 p.m., on Fri., Feb. 13. A sample of this talented Muscogee (Creek) citizen's work can be seen on the invitation.


Tulsa Indian Art Festival
Jon Tiger
Featured Artist: Jon Tiger, Muscogee Creek

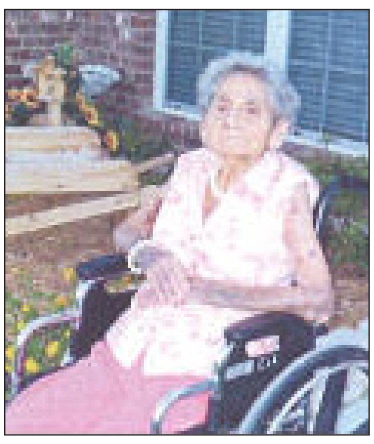
Photograph submitted by Lee Longhorn

Pictured above is Lee Longhorn in his "Pride of Oklahoma" Marching Band uniform along with one of the University of Oklahoma's mascot Boomer. Lee will also serve as the 2009 Music Leader for the Pride of Mvskoke Nation Marching Band.

The theme of Jon's work is sharing the beauty of native customs and cultures that surround us, especially the Creek citizens. The Creek ball stick represents the game called "Little Brother of War." This rough game teaches physical strength, endurance, and tolerance. It is played during the celebration of the new corn harvest. The subjects are dressed in their finest Creek attire during ceremonial celebration. They celebrate their lives together. The Golden Eagle flies across the Tulsa skyline. Tulsa is a Creek town in which Locapokv was the primary tribal town after removal from the Southeastern United States. We still celebrate the observance of the Council Oak Tree Ceremony. The carved shell gorget represents our ancestors. Only mound sites remain of the mound builder culture. The cross incised in the gorget represents the four directions within the sacred circle. The tail feathers of the Golden Eagle represent our military service men and women who fight for our freedoms that we may take for granted. Our military warriors stand guard to protect our right to express ourselves and celebrate as a free people.

OBITUARIES

ELLA J. BENDER



OKEMAH — Ella Joan Bender was called to heaven Jan. 18 at the age of 90 years. Ella was born Dec. 2, 1918 to Robert and Alice (Drew) Colbert in Vian, was devoted to her family and showed spiritual guidance to everyone. She lived the majority of her life in Cromwell and was a member of the Green Leaf Indian Baptist Church.

Ella is preceded in death by her husband Bennie Bender, Brother Robert Colbert, and two sons John Frank Bender and Nelson Harjo. She is survived by her 10 children, Alice Harjo of Arcadia, Edmond Bender of Cali., Mary Harjo of Plano, Texas, Bennie Joe Bender of Shawnee, Sam Bender of Cromwell, Betty Jones of Royse City, Texas, Debbie Ridge of Tulsa, Jeno Bender of Oklahoma City, Leah Labrada and George Bender both of Allen, Texas

She leaves behind 36 grandchildren, 72 great grandchildren, and 17 great-great grandchildren. Ella Joan Bender will be truly missed by everyone. The family would like to give special thanks to Buck Porter Bear, Cortney Factor, And Rita Harjo for being caregivers to Ella.

Funeral was held Thurs., Jan. 22 at the Green Leaf Indian Baptist Church and was officiated by Rev. Jimmy Anderson and Rev. Alex Phillips.

Pall Bearers for Mrs. Bender were Speedy Harjo, Steven Harjo, Bryan Harjo, Rick Colbert, Allen Colbert, and Mitch Price. Honorary Pall Bearers are Bobby Harjo, J.D. Wind, Toby Hill, Ed Bender, David Hill, and Porter Bear.

ALLEN YARGEE

OKLAHOMA CITY — The first time you ever met Allen you became friends. He had a smile that warmed the sun.

Allen was a nurse by profession and he took that to heart. If an Indian was in Presbyterian Hospital, he knew and he checked on them. It didn't matter that the patient was not on his wing or rotation. And for the elderly it was always more reassuring for them to see another brown face. The environment became much more friendly for them.

Not only did Allen work tirelessly in his profession, he worked for his church denomination and the Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association. Even though his health was not the best, as chairman he made many trips to the Muscogee Creek Nation complex lobbying for the needs of the Oklahoma City Muscogee Creek Association.

His work in the church went beyond his local church. He comforted many grieving families over the loss of a family member. It was not unusual for him to stop at a funeral and pray with a family and tell them he couldn't stay because he was on his way to another tribal member's funeral. Allen's voice carried our tribal hymns high to the Creator. Now we will have to sing for him and hope we can carry our songs as high.

He loved his family, and was especially devoted to his grandchildren. He loved his church. He loved his Muscogee Community and heritage.

Allen helped put back into the OCMA community the Muscogee language and traditions.

Allen will be sorely missed and it won't be the same without him, but we know we will feel him in our presence encouraging us to carry on.

REV. HARRY LONG

MUSKOGEE — God has called home a great man. He was born in the Salt Creek Community to Thomas Long, Jr. and Martha (Berryhill) Long.

Reverend Long was preceded in death by one sister, Christie Jo Hance and three brothers, Nathan Long, Thomas Long, III and Maxie Knight.

He married Mulsey (Tarpalechee) Long on May 19, 1947. They had six children; Larry Long (deceased), Beverly (Sister) Long, Stephen (Wotko) Long, both of Muskogee, Taylor (Bug) Long of Casa Grande, Ariz., Gary Long and Joan Miles – Long of San Carlos, Ariz., and Starr Long of Muskogee. Reverend Long also had nine grandchildren; Richard of Maricopa, Ariz, Georgiana (Deceased), Cheryl, of Shawnee, Sarv and Nokose, both of Carson City, Nev. And Gabriel of Phoenix Ariz. He also had six great grandchildren; Monique, Mia, Espoke, Rayne, Miske, Kash (Lvpke), Kaiya (Emkv) and one on the way, as well as numerous "grand dogs."

Harry was sent to boarding school at Bacone in the 1920s and Texas Military School in Terrell, Texas. He served in the United States Marine Corps. In WWII he served as a gunner in THS Special Weapons Battalion. He was in the Invasion Forces that attacked Tarawa and Okinawa and also served in Guam.

Harry had a spirit about him that people enjoyed. He was ordained as a United Methodist Pastor in 1947 in the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference. He served many churches throughout Oklahoma and Kansas as well as serving as an Ecumenical Worker for the reservations around San Diego County and as pastor of the Quechan Reservation in Yuma, Ariz. He also served in a street ministry in Phoenix, Ariz., that was known as the Ministry of Presence. He started the Native American Ministry in Phoenix and then moved to Brighton, Fla., to serve among the Seminoles. From there he went to Oklahoma to serve the Indian Methodist Churches until retiring in 1997.

Wake services were held on Wed., Dec. 10 in the Bradley Belltower Chapel. Funeral Services were held Thurs., Dec. 11 at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Muskogee. Interment followed at Fort Gibson National Cemetery with Taylor "Bug" Long, Stephen Wotko Long, Gary Long, Richard Long, Nokose Long, Gabriel Long, Espoke Lee Long, and Jason Jones serving as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers were Donald Long, Nathan Long Jr., Bobby Long, Guy Long, Christopher Aultman, Randy Aultman, Greg Aultman, Lyle Deere, Floyd Jones, Edward Michael Tarpalechee, Yarme "Cheba" Tarpalechee, David Long III, and Kash Lvpke Rakosky.

Thank God for the life of Harry long. Mvto.

JOHN ALEXANDER

John Alexander was born on Feb. 5, 1946 in Lamar to George "Toby" Alexander and Hattie Bruner Alexander. He passed away on Oct. 15 in Tulsa at the age of 62. His parents preceded him in death.

He was raised in Wichita, Kan. He was baptized on Dec. 2, 1956 in Wichita. He served two years in the U.S. Army. He was married to Vicki John on Aug.4, 1966. She preceded him in death.

He is survived by his sons john Alexander, Jr., of Sand Springs, Brian Alexander of Tulsa, one grandson, Cody Alexander of Sand Springs, six sisters Abbie Larney of Holdenville, Martha Jimboy of lexington, Esther Pick-Up of Chouteau, Margaret Alexander of Lawrence Kansas, Emma Perry of Lawrence Kasnas and Clara Keawphalouk of Seminole.

Funeral Services were October 18 at Middle Creek Baptist Church #1 in Lamar with Rev. Joe Bruner Sr., Rev. Robert Berryhill, and Rev. Mark Smith officiating. Burial was at Carson Cemetery in Carson with military rites by the Creek Nation Honor Guard and officiated by Rev. Jimmy Alexander and Rev. Edwin Jimboy.

Pallbearers: Raymond Watson, Cecil Watson Jr., Mark jimboy, Micco Wesley, James Jimboy, Katcv Larney, Jalin Keawphalouk and Andreios Alexander.

Honorary Pallbearers: Rick Harjo, Pete Johnson, Phillip Bear, Joe Bruner Sr., Marvin Bear, Reed George, Eddie Alexander, James Bear, Russell Larney, and Dennis Bear. Services under the direction of Hudson-Phillips of Holdenville, Okla.

THANK YOU

MORRIS — Our family would like to say thank you to the Arbeka Ceremonial Ground, the Big Cussetah Methodist Church, Mitchell Taylor, Dale Litsey, Dewar Indian Community, Checotah (Creek) Indian Commmunity, and Shurden Funeral Home for all the help you provided during our time of need. To the Muscogee Nation Honor Guard we say a special thank you for saluting our veteran, husband, father, and grandfather. Also, we would like to say Thank you to the Lighthorsemen who help to make the transition from the church to the cemetery a safe one. Although we were unfocused and saddened we especially want to thank the many friends and family that came to visit us during our time of need. You may have brought food or flowers and we may not have had the chance to visit we want you to know that you encouraged us with your presence. Mvto from the Jim Hicks Family, his son and his brother.

THANK YOU

On behalf of the family of John Alexander, Sr. - we would like to say thank you to the Middle Creek Baptistt Church #1 - Pastor Mark Smith and his church members for assisting in the funeral. Thank you for the prayers, meals and showing the family your love. Thank you to our relatives and friends. Special thank you to Rev. Joe Bruner, Sr. Rev. Robert Berryhill, Rev. Jimmy Alexander and Rev. Edwin Jimboy. Also to the Creek Nation Honor Guard. Your help was greatly appreciated. May God bless you all!

John Alexander Sr. Family

District Court filings for December 2008

Civil:

Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. Two Thousand Five Hundred dollars and no/100 ($2500.00) and Five Hundred dollars and no/100 ($500)	Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture
Lauren Goodvoice v. Jennie McNac	Petition
MCN Consumer Loans v. Victor Berryhill	Small Claims
Security Finance v. Carol Humble	Small Claims
Security Finance v. Joshua Haskew	Small Claims
Muscogee (Creek) Nation, ex rel., Jack Shackelford, Chief of Police, Lighthorse v. Certain Property, whether stolen, embezzled, lost, abandoned or otherwise obtained being unknown or unclaimed	Application
Melody McPerryman v. Charly Hicks	Petition
Krystal Wind v. Freeland Lindsey	Petition
Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. One Thousand, Six Hundred Dollars and no/100 ($1,600.00) Cash Jackpot	Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture
Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. One Hundred Fifty-Five and no/100 ($155.00)	Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture

Divorce:

Leney McNac Jr. v. Mindy McNac	Divorce
Athena Cofer-Boutte v. John Boutte	Divorce
Thomas Matthews v. Shelly Matthews	Divorce
Bobby Harjo v. Gwendolyn Harjo	Divorce
Lowell Wesley v. Doris Wesley	Divorce
Jessina McBee v. Roderick McBee	Divorce
Sarah Taylor v. Carl Grauberger IV	Divorce
Michael Harrell v. Kristen Harrell	Divorce
Cheryl Buckley v. Jeffrey Meely	Divorce
Ashley Cash v. Wendell Stafford Jr.	Divorce
Jacob Ahtone v. Shannon Ahtone	Divorce
Carmela Cook v. Bary Cook	Divorce

Family Domestic:

CSE, ex rel., Jennifer Kitchens v. Charles Mohan	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Tracie Powell v. James Charlie	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Sarah Taylor v. Jon Smithee	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Jesse Keigley v. Courtney Keigley	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Patsy Moore v. Robert Moore	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Dana Thompson v. George Phillip Jr.	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Hillary Martin v. Chad Deere	Child Support
Christopher Sims v. CSE, ex rel., Deborah Stafford	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Amber Wells v. Jon Withers	Child Support

Ex-Parte:

Yvonne Antelope v. William Littlehead	Ex-Parte
Janice Berryhill v. Katherine Harrison & Chad Hill	Ex-Parte
Tina Dee, on behalf of minor child T.D. v. T.T., minor child	Ex-Parte
Kaira Barnett v. Nicholas Pigeon	Ex-Parte

Criminal Misdemeanors:

MCN v. Robert Walters	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
MCN v. Shawn Tyndall	Ct. 1: Sale or Delivery of Tobacco Products to a child prohibited
MCN v. Julia Grammar	Ct. 1: Sale or Delivery of Tobacco Products to a child prohibited
MCN v. Mekko McGirt	Ct. 1: Sale or Delivery of Tobacco Products to a child prohibited
MCN v. Cynthia Cain	Ct. 1: Sale or Delivery of Tobacco Products to a child prohibited
MCN v. Misty Hudson	Ct. 1: Trespassing

FAMILY MEMBERS OF MILITARY ACTIVE DUTY MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZENS

It is requested that family members of Military Active Duty, National Guard and Reserves kindly call or write to the Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO) to provide the following:

- **Name**
- **Service Branch**
- **Unit**
- **Mailing Address**
- **E-mail Address**
- **Any and all pertinent information you wish to provide**

The Requested purpose of this information is to publicly honor and recognize our tribal citizens on Military Active Duty, National Guard and Reserves.

Please contact:
Shawn Taryole
(918) 732-7745
staryole@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
Ken Davis
(918) 732-7739
kendavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Mvskoke Bowshooters keeping tradition alive

• Cvkotakse Seccvlke aims to bring back awareness to the sacred art of Creek bow making and shooting

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

Photo courtesy of Paul Orosco

Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court Judge Patrick Moore takes part in the monthly Mvskoke Cvkotakse Seccvlke bow shoot on Sun., Jan. 18, 2009 on the complex grounds.

OKMULGEE — While traveling Interstate 75, near the Muscogee (Creek) Nation complex, you may see a gathering of folks shooting traditional Mvskoke bows. Don't be alarmed, you haven't driven into a time warp and entered the past, it's just *Cvkotakse Seccvlke* and they are doing their part to keep Creek tradition alive.

"We started this about a year and a half ago," said Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court Judge Patrick Moore. "It's a way for us to encourage and advance our cultural activities."

Once a month, the bow shooters meet at the complex grounds to shoot traditional hand-made bows and arrows at targets of stacked cornstalks that are placed 100 yards apart. The shooters are scored according to the number of cornstalks their arrows have pierced once the target is hit. Games are played to 50 points and are followed by a short break. Not only are the shooters encouraged to use traditional weaponry but there are other events happening simultaneously at the complex that make it a diverse and entertaining gathering.

"We have great competition out here as well as some traditional gaming, with bets being placed on accuracy," said Moore. "At our last shoot we even had people throwing tomahawks and knives at playing cards."

The shooters' society began as a brainchild of Mvskoke cvkotakse hayv ("bow maker"), Mike Berryhill. Berryhill, who has crafted traditional Creek bows for many years, first became interested when he observed a similar group of shooters at the Cherokee Nation; he decided to enlist the support of Judge Moore and others who were interested in reviving one of our oldest cultural traditions.

The society will once again showcase its demonstrations at this year's Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival. The Festival shoot is unique in that it encourages all shooters to participate in full cultural dress.

"Last year was our first year to be a part of the festival activities and it really went well," said Jerrad Moore, one of the founding members of Cvkotakse Seccvlke. "We are encouraged by the fact that there are people out there who care enough about our culture to put effort into activities that keep it moving forward."

This year's festival bow shoot will take place on the west side of the Capitol complex and will begin Fri., June 19 and will conclude on Sat., June 20; a traditional fire will be set alight on Friday evening.

In addition to this year's Festival, the society has also planned an event with the Cherokee Nation. The Cherokee bow shooters will be hosting "Shoot of the Nations" on June 29, 2009. There will be more information on this historic event in upcoming months.

For more information on Cvkotakse Seccvlke or to be placed on the mailing list for future events, contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court offices at (918) 758-1400 or by email at okmulgeeindianlaw@yahoo.com.

Native Sports Rush makes debut

• All-Indian sports talk show takes off on CW12/19

Media Release
MCN Communications

OKMULGEE — The Native Sports Rush, a 30-minute monthly showcase of the sports world from an Indian perspective, has debuted on Tulsa's CW12/19. The inaugural episode aired on January 31 at 2 p.m., immediately following the regularly scheduled broadcast of Native News Today.

The show, the first of it's kind in the state of Oklahoma, features a roundtable format of Native sports journalists coupled with packaged stories on Indian sports stars of the past, present and future.

Hosting the show is Muscogee Nation News sports editor Jason Salsman along with Gerald Wofford, the president of the Native American Boxing Council. Joining as in-studio analysts are Brent Cahwee, cofounder of the popular NDNsports.com web site, and Eric Bailey who serves as beat writer for Tulsa Golden Hurricane athletics at the Tulsa World.

"I think I speak for all of us when I say that we're really excited for this opportunity and the chance to tell our side of the story when it comes to sports," said Salsman, who also serves as the show's producer.

Cahwee agreed that this gathering of Native sports journalists in the television medium is a historic event.

"This is historic," said Cahwee. "When we were shooting the first episode I had realized that what we were doing had never been done before in Indian Country. It's an honor to be a part of it."

The shows next scheduled episode will be Feb. 28 at 2 p.m., and promises to include more Native sports news and happenings from across the country. Maybe even a little more exposure nationally on the airwaves as well.

"I talked to a friend of mine and he was telling me (acclaimed Native American actor) Adam Beach was wanting to put the show on his all-Indian web channel."

The Native Sports Rush, "Get In the Game!"

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HOTCORNER

JASONsalsman
jsalsman@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
(918) 732-7644

Hensci 'stecat's! Yet another ice storm in Oklahoma. What's the deal? Can we not just get some snow or something? Ice is just rude, it doesn't care about anybody! I think I am obligated to tell you that your buddy J-Sals has taken more falls on the ice out there than some of the clumsiest NHL goons on the planet. I busted it at the Henryetta Love's, popped up, saw that nobody had seen me, quickly dusted-off and headed on down the road. And even though nobody was there to point and laugh, don't worry I had a nice chuckle at my own expense. I wasn't the only one though. Oklahoma City News9 sports director and former OU quarterback Dean Blevins took a nasty spill at his home during the storm and spent a few days in ICU at the OU Medical Center. Get well soon Dean, I may not agree with you all the time, but you're a good dude and a consummate pro.

A few months ago, Gerald and I asked the question of whether or not there was any hope for the OKC Thunder NBA franchise to show a glimmer of hope this season. At the time the Thunder had the league's worst record, were in the midst of a coaching change and the youthful team showed little signs of life at times. Fast forward to now, and things are looking a little brighter in the "Big League City." Interim coach Scott Brooks has got the boys playing hard and competitively, and is showing with each game why the "interim" tag on his title should vanish. They are getting great minutes from some role players, Russell Westbrook's point guard play has went from raw and erratic to dependable and sensational at times and Jeff Green and Kevin Durant are absolute superstars. It will be interesting to see how the squad deals with the recent loss of Desmond Mason to a knee injury for the remainder of the season. Durant himself called Mason the "heart and soul" of the team, so it will be a hit to the chemistry that the Thunder are continuing to build. But things are definitely looking up, and the fans are noticing. The Thunder are ranked in the top ten in NBA attendance this year, and that's with a team well below the .500 mark. Be patient with this club, there could be some special days ahead.

Earlier this morning I was in the boss' office when my new Sports Illustrated came in. Usually I make a pretty quick glance-through to see what catches my eye. Sometimes its a good issue, sometimes I want to throw it in the trash right then and there. But Selena Roberts' Point After column captivated my attention this time. The article entitled "Notah Begay's Tour of Duty," was a feature on the full-blooded Navajo professional PGA golfer's efforts to raise public awareness to the plight of Native Americans living on reservations in the country. Begay has several charities and establishments geared to raise funds and combat the plagues that are killing Indian Country day-by-day through his Notah Begay, III Foundation. The article points out some startling statistics. Among the worst: a suicide rate 3.3 times higher than the national average and a high school dropout rate twice the national average on reservations. As I kept reading though I thought to myself, how come all I ever read about Natives are articles like this? How come there is never a positive statistic on Indian youth and some of our brightest youngsters? The best answer I could come up with is selective journalism. People write what the nation-wide perspective is, and they don't care to delve any further into that. I bet you for every sad and somber story out there are two of hope and encouragement. I'm blessed with my job to be able to meet and tell the stories of inspired kids on a daily basis. Not everyone chooses to make the wrong choices. Some of our Native youth actually step out of their surroundings and decide to be their own person. Let's start talking about them for a change.

JUMPS

Mascot

Continued from B1

Although the implications may be felt throughout the country, the bill is aiming its efforts at all public schools in the state of Oklahoma, including institutions of elementary, secondary and higher education. An except of SB 176, now officially known as the 'Oklahoma Anti-Discriminatory Mascots Act' reads as follows:

"The use of racially derogatory or discriminatory school or athletic team names, mascots, or nicknames in Oklahoma public schools is antithetical to the Oklahoma school mission of providing an equal education to all;

Racially-identified athletic team names, mascots, and nicknames that have been and remain in use by athletic teams, and school teams, in other parts of the nation are identified as discriminatory in singling out the Native American/American Indian community for the derision to which mascots or nicknames are often subjected;

The Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes of Oklahoma, an organization that unites the tribal governments of the Chickasaw, Choctaw, Cherokee, Muscogee (Creek), and Seminole Nations, representing over 400,000 Indian people throughout the United States, declared in The Five Civilized Tribes Intertribal Council Mascot Resolution (2001-08), "WHEREAS, the Five Civilized Tribes believe the use of derogatory American Indian images such as mascots by public schools perpetuate a stereotypical image of American Indians that is likely to have a negative impact on the self-esteem of American Indian children; and joins the United States Commission on Civil Rights call to eliminate the stereotypical use of American Indian names and images as mascots in sports and other events and to provide meaningful education about real American Indian people, current American Indian issues, and the rich variety of American Indian cultures in the U.S.";

Many individuals and organizations interested and experienced in human relations, such as the United States Commission on Civil Rights, the American Psychological Association, the National Governing Board of the United Methodist Church, the National Congress of American Indians, the National Indian Education Association, and others, have concluded that the use of Native American images and names in school sports is a barrier to equality and understanding, and that all residents of the United States would benefit from the discontinuance of their use," the bill states.

Sweet

Continued from B1

This fund raiser is not to pay for the trip. The proceeds go to the SWAT team for additional spending money for "SWEET TREATDAY" and will be distributed equally. Next meeting, our youth will appoint a secretary/treasurer who will update the team on the fund raisers for "SWEET TREAT DAY."

Shell we shake our shells at the dance tonight, Valentine?

This is a pre-pay fund raiser and orders are due on Feb. 8, 6 p.m., at our next SWAT meeting. You may also pick your orders up early if you call in advance with the quantity and money.

Pictured at left is one of the seven different Native-themed Valentine's Day cards available for purchase.

For questions, additional information or order forms, please don't hesitate to call the Tobacco Prevention office at (918) 623-1189. MVTO!

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

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P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447 • (918) 732-7720

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Hotvle Hovse - Wind Month

THE MNN

• EXTRA EDITION •

Volume 2, Issue 2
www.themuscogeecreeknation.com
February 2009

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Rebecca Landsberry

Letter from the Editor:

Hensci readers. I'm glad to see that we are finally thawing out from January's ice-covered shenanigan here in Okla. Unfortunately, the famous little groundhog in Punxsutawney saw his shadow, predicting another six weeks of winter. I officially envy those of you reading in sunny California and Florida right now.

Everyone knows Feb., is supposed to be the month of love, but for those of us without a sweetheart, it is American Heart month as well. Some of the lesser-known days we celebrate this month include national Plum Pudding Day on the 12th and Hoodie Hoo Day on the 20th where everyone yells "Hoodie-Hoo" at noon to chase away winter and make way for spring.

So whether you're spelling "I Love You," or "Love Stinks," via conversational hearts, don't forget to keep your real heart healthy, too. There's even a free "Love your heart" event sponsored by the OIHC on Feb. 18 (for more info, turn to page 5).

There won't be an Extra Edition in March because the staff will be attending training in Boston, Mass., for a week. We will, however, resume our normal schedule again in April and of course the regular MNN will still keep the same printing schedule. As always, *mvto* for taking the time to let us know what's going on in your neck of the woods this month!

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

•JOM hosts annual job fair

Local youth learn about employment opportunities for the future

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•MFSI returning to Native roots

Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative's "Return to Your Roots" Conference

PROGRAMS - 5

OKMULGEE CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY

MEANS BUSINESS

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee Indian Community celebrated the grand opening of the new smoke and gift shop on Wed., Feb. 11, 2009. Tribal officials, community representatives and Muscogee (Creek) National Council members crowded the new building located south of Okmulgee on the corner of Highway 75 and 36th St., for a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house.

The new store boasts a drive-thru window where customers can get tobacco products without walking inside and a gift shop which will feature handmade, Native arts and crafts. A tourism kiosk will also be available for travelers and wanting to learn more about the tribe and its capital city of Okmulgee. The new smoke shop is a continuing economic development project for the Okmulgee Indian Community which has more than 170 members.

Leading the Okmulgee Indian Community Board is Chair Ester Gee, Vice-Chair Pearl Thomas, Treasurer Robyn Culley, Secretary Pat Williams and Sergeant-at-Arms Reuben Factor.

According to Chairwoman Gee, the opening could not have been possible without the help of her family and support from the Nation who turned the dilapidated site into the beautiful, new structure that now lures both tourists and citizens into the historic town of Okmulgee.

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Pictured from left to right are former National Council Rep. Jeff Fife, Pearl Thomas, Michelle Billie, Ester Gee, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and former National Council Rep. Robert Jones at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new smoke shop.

This new location is ideally positioned on Highway 75 and is a great convenience for travelers either coming into Okmulgee or exiting. The new facility offers more than just ample space, it's design is also aesthetically pleasing. Vaulted ceilings and an exterior wood finish create a warm and inviting feel for all patrons.

In addition to tobacco, the location will also have snacks and beverages as part of the merchandise. During the ceremony, customers continued to spill into the building, a sure sign of instant success for the smoke shop and the Okmulgee Creek Indian Community. For more information on the shop or the Okmulgee Indian Community, contact Ester Gee at (918) 759 - 8553.

Miss Muscogee Scholarship Pageant applications available

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — JOM is taking applications for the 2009 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Scholarship Pageant. The applications are available on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation official Web site at www.themuscogeecreeknation.com, or at the Human Development building.

Creek ladies are presented with a unique opportunity to represent their Nation. Eligible applicants may take pride in knowing they were hand-picked to represent the tribe as a "goodwill ambassador," while competing for scholarships.

Applicants must be at least one-fourth Creek and willing to appear at events throughout the year. Depending on the age group, applicants must meet certain judging criteria which is specified on the application.

The pageant is comprised of six age groups including Little Miss Division 1 (ages 4-6), Little Miss Division II (age 7-9), Little Miss Division III (ages 10-13), Junior Miss (ages 14-17), Miss (ages 17-22) and Senior Miss (age 55 and over).

For the Miss, Jr. Miss and Senior Miss contestants there is a talent competition and group talents are not accepted. The talent should be anything talent that has cultural relevance such as cultural photography, dancing, cooking, speaking, etc.

For more information on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Scholarship Pageant, please contact Virginia Thomas at (918) 732-7839.

Exec. Order creates Council on Youth

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — An Executive Order was released from the Office of the Principal Chief which would create a Council on Youth. The order states, "There exists a multiplicity of needs for the youth of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation."

It also explains that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has numerous offices/departments that serve one or more functions that address the needs of the youth of the Nation. A creation of a Council on Youth would address all the needs of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation youth and coordinate all the offices/departments that serve the Nation's youth.

SEE YOUTH - 2

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STAFF
Manager - Lucas Taylor
Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
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Sports Writer - Jason Salsman
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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence. **TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL** (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

From the Office of the Principal Chief

Submitted Feb. 16, 2009

OKMULGEE — Hello fellow Creek citizens! I apologize for failure to provide timely newspaper articles, as I have in the past. I would like to comment on the Extraordinary Session held Thurs., Feb. 12, 2009.

I attended last night's National Council's Extraordinary Session. This session was to introduce a piece of legislation to move the Health Systems from a Board of Directors to a Division of the Administration.

This was accomplished by a vote of 10 in favor, nine against, and one abstention. The current Administration and Chief Beaver's Administration has been trying to make this transition for the last 14 years.

All other tribes operate their Health under the umbrella of their Administration such as Choctaws, Cherokees, Chickasaws, and Seminoles. We plan on hiring a nationally known director to manage our Health Systems in hopes of improving the health care provided to all Creek citizens. I will ask the National Council for even more monies to be appropriated toward Health, to purchase better equipment and to increase personnel. Also, I want to tell all health employees not to worry about losing their jobs; I really feel the need to hire more health care employees.

Back to last night's Extraordinary Session, Mr. Alexander mentioned the Chief has vetoed many qualified people. I have a question. If it was felt that the former CEO was so qualified, why did the National Council support my veto, unanimously? The veto stood with a vote of 25 to 0.

> *"If it was felt that the former CEO was so qualified, why did the National Council support my veto, unanimously? The veto stood with a vote of 25 to 0."*
> - Principal Chief A.D. Ellis

Also, it was mentioned, the Executive Office failed to secure a Tobacco Compact. Did Sam, Roger, George, Bill, etc., forget so soon? A year and a half ago, I took the best compact offered in Oklahoma to our National Council (4.30 tax) and they tore it to pieces. The Governor rejected their version and said forget it.

Due to this rejection by the former Council and those listed above, it has and will cost our Nation about 2.5 million more dollars per year under the new compact. Let's put the blame where it's proven to be, the former Council and those hangovers. I hesitate getting into a discussion about taking seven years to build a new Casino which should have been finished in two years.

One might even mention, the Supreme Court cases where the National Council lost all cases. Let's even go back a little further, let's go back to the election of 2004 when Sam and Bill, both lost in the Principal Chief's primary race. That alone should speak for itself.

If someone wants to throw stones, then they should move from their glass house.

Quote of the Month:

"Fools live to regret their words, wise men regret their silence."

Youth

Continued from Page 1

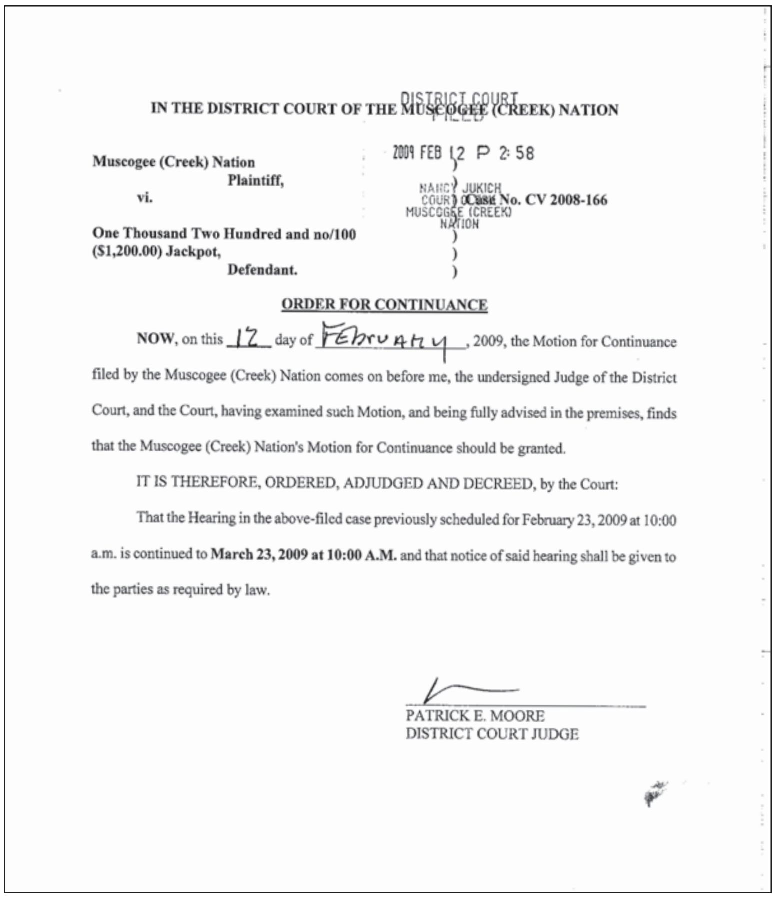
Executive Order 09-03 is to be implemented for the creation of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Council on Youth that will oversee the Muscogee (Creek) Nation policy, planning and development of programs and activities for the youth of the Nation.

The Principal Chief shall appoint members of the Council on Youth based upon their functions in service to the youth of the Nation. Members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation who wish to participate in the Council on Youth's business may volunteer and serve as adjunct members by submitting a request in writing to the chairperson.

The power of this Council on Youth is to create policy for serving the needs of youth of all ages by coordinating and collaborative planning and development of programs and activities with a focus on those Muscogee (Creek) Nation functions already existing and funded; and to help create programs and activities that may be needed and request funding from the National Council to assist Muscogee (Creek) Nation youth in their journey to adulthood.

The Executive Order became effective on Feb. 9, 2009 and shall remain in effect until revoked in writing by the Principal Chief. Copies of the Executive Order will soon be distributed to the National Council, Office of Administration, division directors, independent agencies, and Boards and Commissions within the organizational structure of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Legal notices



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 FEB 12 P 2:58
NANCY JUKICH
COURT
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Plaintiff,)
vi.) **Case No. CV 2008-166**
)
One Thousand Two Hundred and no/100)
($1,200.00) Jackpot,)
Defendant.)

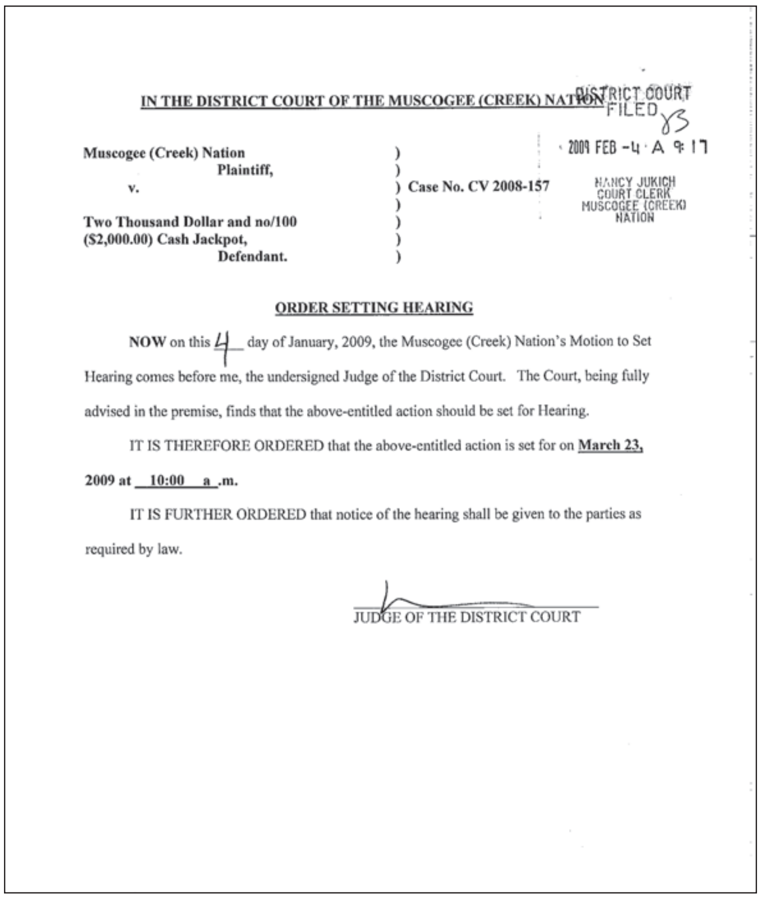
ORDER FOR CONTINUANCE

NOW, on this 12 day of February, 2009, the Motion for Continuance filed by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation comes on before me, the undersigned Judge of the District Court, and the Court, having examined such Motion, and being fully advised in the premises, finds that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Motion for Continuance should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE, ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED, by the Court:

That the Hearing in the above-filed case previously scheduled for February 23, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. is continued to **March 23, 2009 at 10:00 A.M.** and that notice of said hearing shall be given to the parties as required by law.

PATRICK E. MOORE
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
83
2009 FEB -4 A 9:17
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

Muscogee (Creek) Nation)
Plaintiff,)
v.) **Case No. CV 2008-157**
)
Two Thousand Dollar and no/100)
($2,000.00) Cash Jackpot,)
Defendant.)

ORDER SETTING HEARING

NOW on this 4 day of January, 2009, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Motion to Set Hearing comes before me, the undersigned Judge of the District Court. The Court, being fully advised in the premise, finds that the above-entitled action should be set for Hearing.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the above-entitled action is set for on **March 23, 2009 at 10:00 a .m.**

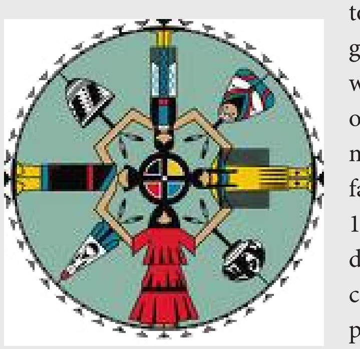
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that notice of the hearing shall be given to the parties as required by law.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

NWHRC hosts HIV/AIDS prevention

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — The National Women's Health Resource Center is hosting an intergenerational approach to HIV/AIDS prevention with Women Across the Lifespan training on Sat., March 7, 2009 and Sat., March 14, 2009.



Each of the trainings will take place between 9 a.m., and 3 p.m., at the Okmulgee County Extension Office located at 1901 N. Oklahoma, at the Okmulgee Fairgrounds.

Eligible participants include American Indian women and girls ages 12-18 interested in attending training sessions regarding HIV/AIDS prevention. A household may be defined as mother-daughter, grandmother-granddaughter and or aunt-niece living in the same house.

Those who participate will receive a mileage stipend (one per house hold please) and each participant must complete all sessions. At the end of training, each adult and girl will receive $50 only after completion of the second day of training. If a mother and daughter complete the course, they would each receive $50. If a mother and two daughters attend, then all three participants would receive $50 each. Those enrolled in the training will also be served snacks and lunch.

The goal of the program is to teach cross-generations of women and other female members of the family more than 12-years-old to develop healthy communication patterns built on caring, trusting relationships. Another goal is to equip women to give accurate information about their sexual health issues between other female members of the family 12 years and over by incorporating gender-focused, age specific, culturally competent and linguistically appropriate HIV/AIDS prevention information.

The goal of the NIWHRC is to recruit 40 individuals including 10 adult women and 30 girls ages 12-18. Interested applicants may contact Kimberley Chaffin at (918) 456-6094 ext. 112 or Janie Dibble at (918) 456-6094 ext. 103.

NIWHRC is also seeking assistance in recruiting participants. Interested parties may send contact information to Kimberley Chaffin at Kimberley@niwhrc.org. Prospective recruits will then be contacted by a staff member from the National Indian Women's Health Resource Center.

Nation closes $195 million in Senior Credit Facilities

by Thompson Gouge
MCN Public Relations

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation announced today that it had successfully closed $195 million in Senior Credit Facilities.

The proceeds of the Senior Credit Facilities are being used to permanently finance the Nation's new River Spirit Casino, which is set to open March 31, 2009. The $195 million transaction is one of only a few debt transactions done in the gaming industry during the worst credit crisis in modern American history. The Senior Credit Facilities are divided into two parts including a $55 million revolving credit facility and a $140 million term loan.

The Senior Credit Facilities, co-led by Bank of America N.A., and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, received strong participation from Key Bank, Bank of Oklahoma, Capital One, US Bank and Comercia, Merrill Lynch & Co., serves as the Nation's Capital Markets Advisor.

The successful structuring, syndication and closing of the Credit Facilities was made possible because of the efforts and dedication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Principal Chief, A.D. Ellis, Speaker Thomas Yahola, 2nd Speaker Steve Bruner, First Assistant Attorney General Shannon Cozzoni, Chief of Staff Mike Flud, the Nation's Gaming Operations Authority Board and many others who spent countless hours with the banks, auditors, consultants and advisors.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is proud of its gaming operations and is pleased that this closing represents an important milestone in the multi-facility casino operations' development on successful contribution to the Nation's economic development and government. For more information, contact Shannon Cozzoni at (918) 295-9720.

Rally at state capitol for children's mental health

Media Release
OFFYCMH

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma Federation of Families for Youth and Children's Mental Health will be hosting an awareness day at the Oklahoma State Capitol on Thurs., March 5, 2009 from 8 a.m. – 12 noon, located at 2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., in Oklahoma City.

Show your support for the Children's Coordinated Budget Request and rally support for critical children and youth legislative issues at the Rotunda. The goal of the rally is to have families from every district represented.

Please R.S.V.P., to Oklahoma Federation of Families, Attn: Jamie, e-mail offcmh@aol.com, or call 866-837-9122.

Committee Meetings

Business / Governmental
Steve Bruner - Chairman
Pete Beaver - Vice-Chair
Larry Cahwee
Selina Jayne-Dornan
David Nichols
Travis Scott
Paula Willits

Meetings: Thursday prior to Planning Session at 6 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Tribal Affairs
Bill S. Fife - Chairman
Sam Alexander - Vice-Chair
David Hill
Adam Jones
Eddie LaGrone
Carmin Tecumseh

Meetings: Third Tuesday at 5:30 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Human Development
Johnnie Greene - Chairman
Darrell Proctor - Vice Chair
Shirlene Ade
Ron Cleghorn
James Jennings
Keeper Johnson

Meetings: 1st Monday at 7 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Community Services / Cultural
Cherrah Quiett - Chairman
Roger Barnett- Vice Chair
Terrie Anderson
Robert Hufft
Kara Medina
Lena Wind

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m., in the Council chambers.

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Community Calendar

•Concharty to host annual wild onion dinner

OKMULGEE – Concharty United Methodist Church will host their annual wild onion dinner on Sat., March 28, 2009 from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

The church is located at 19040 Garfield Road in Okmulgee. Adults will be $8.00 and children (12 and under) will be $5.00. For more info call (918) 366-8450.

•Little Cussetah to host annual wild onion dinner

SAPULPA — Little Cussetah Church will be hosting their annual wild onion dinner on Sat., March 21, 2009 from 11 to 3 p.m. Adults will be $8.00 and children will be $5.00 (per plate).

•Weogufkee Indian Baptist hosts Indian taco sale

OKMULGEE — Weogufkee I.B.C., will host an Indian taco sale on Fri., Feb. 20 from 10-2 p.m., at the Human Development Building at the MCN complex. Tacos will be $6.00 each and will include a dessert and drink. For more information, contact Della Proctor at (918) 732 - 7769.

•MCNEM hosts annual storm-spotter training

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Emergency Management, Okmulgee County Emergency Management and the City of Okmulgee Emergency Management are teaming up again this year to host the annual storm-spotter training.

The event will be held Mon., Feb. 23, 2009 at 7 p.m., at the MCN complex in the Mound Building. CLEET certification will also be given for law enforcement officials in attendance.

For more information, contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Emergency Management at (918) 732 - 7891.

JOM hosts tribal job fair for local 8th graders

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — Covelle Hall on the campus of the OSU Institute of Technology was filled with middle school students from all over Indian Country on Tues., Feb. 10.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Johnson O'Malley program hosted its annual middle school job fair which boasted a fantastic turnout including several schools including Okemah, Coweta, Mason, Dewar, and several others.

Chief A.D. Ellis, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Chief of Staff Mike Flud, Executive Director Claude Sumner spoke to the crowd about the importance of getting an education and preparing for the future.

In addition to the students some local organizations and companies attended the fair to share insight on career possibilities with the students. Various fields were represented such as health, law enforcement, nursing, visual communications, photography, cosmetology, journalism, and military.

In order to encourage students to get the most information while attending the fair, JOM set up a system where students must visit each table and ask a question from the representatives of various fields. Once they communicated with the representative, they obtained the signature from that person. Each student gathered a predetermined number of signatures in order to be eligible for prizes.

This system was a fun and encouraging way to help students break the ice and communicate with professionals in the working world. Each student who completed the signature challenge received numbered tickets.

No JOM event is complete without a little fun. Not only did the middle school crowd have a chance to see some exciting equipment used by law enforcement, but they also got an up-close-look at an actual Life Flight helicopter used by hospitals in the state.

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

The equipment used by Lighthorse Police was a popular attraction for students attending the JOM job fair. Students were informed about law enforcement in addition to many other career opportunities in and around the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Tulsa Indian Club hosts 2009 Winter Dance

Media Release
Tulsa Indian Club

GLENPOOL — The Tulsa Indian Club will be hosting a Winter Dance on Sat., Feb. 28, 2009 at the Glenpool Indian Community Center located at 13839 S. Capser in Glenpool. The center is located next to the smoke shop on Hwy. 75.

Kelly Anquoe will emcee the event which will feature Gourd Dancing beginning at 2 p.m., with Grand Entry following at 7 p.m. Admission will be a $2.00 donation.

Arts and crafts booths will also be available for $25, however, there is limited availability.

For more information on booths or the event, please contact Robert Anquoe at (918) 671 - 2417, visit: www.tulsapowwow.org, or e-mail tici@tulsapowwow.org.

2009 Festival to add Farmer's Market

by Brian-On-The-Hill
MCN Tourism & Recreation

OKMULGEE — The 2009 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will include a Farmer's Market.

Interested parties may sell their home-grown produce to contact the office of Tourism & Recreation to secure a space at no cost. All chartered Creek communities are encouraged to inform farmers in their areas and secure a space for them.

The 35th Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will be held June 18-21, 2009. For more information, contact Brian On-The-Hill at Tourism & Recreation at (918) 732-7993.

U.S. Census testing for Native employment

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The US Census will be doing testing for part-time employment jobs.

The first available testing date will be Wed., February 18 beginning at noon. The second testing date will be Wed., March 4 at noon and both events will be held at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center.

There will also be testing on Tues., Feb. 24 at the Human Development Building on the complex of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Applicants should provide two forms of ID such as a driver's license, social security card and or CDIB card. Areas of skill to be tested include clerical, reading comprehension and organizational skills.

Every year, more than $300 billion in federal and state funds are allocated to tribes and states and communities based on census data. That's more than $3 trillion over a 10-year period. For more information, contact Community Development at (918) 732-7963.

FAMILY MEMBERS OF MUSCOGEE (CREEK) SOLDIERS KILLED IN ACTION

It is requested that family members of Muscogee (Creek) soldiers Killed In Action during World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam kindly contact the Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO) to provide the following:

- **Name of Muscogee (Creek) Soldier**
- **Verification of Citizenship**
- **Killed In Action Verification**
- **Birth Date**
- **Service Branch**
- **Killed In Action Date**

The Requested purpose of this information is to publicly honor and recognize our tribal soldiers in the Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO) Memorial Courtyard.
Please contact:
Shawn Taryole • (918) 732-7745 • staryole@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
Ken Davis • (918) 732-7739 • kendavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

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MFSI returning to Native roots

by Liz Gray-Gore
Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative

Photos courtesy of Tsyunhehkwa

Pictured above is Jeff Metoxen who serves as the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin's manager of the Tsyunhehkwa Program and speaker at the 2009 "Return to Your Roots" Food Sovereignty Conference in March 2009.

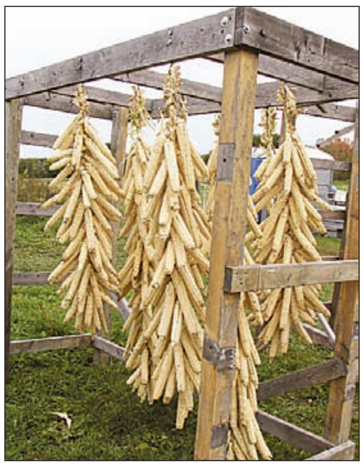
TULSA — Tsyunhehkw is an Agricultural Community and Culturally based program of the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin. Based on a certified organic 83-acre site, their program is founded on self-sustainability and service for the Oneida Nation and the community.

They have three main components including agriculture, cannery and retail, however what they do means more than just providing food for their people and the local community.

To them, it means "sustenance," or a right to sustain one's self through what the earth has provided for them since the beginning of time.

It means, "medicine" because the spiritual and nutritional qualities in their foods can't be found in store-bought vegetables, fruits or beef. It means having a sense of pride that comes from providing for themselves by growing, cultivating, harvesting what belongs to them.

Woven throughout all of these traits is also a sense of identity, because they are growing their traditional foods - corn, beans and squash and remembering who they are. These foods, which oral tradition tells them has been a gift from the Creator since the beginning of their existence, was made to take care of them. This belief in the foods they grow today becomes a reflection of who they are.



Jeff Metoxen is the manager of the Tsyunhehkwa (joon hey-qwa "life sustenance") program. He will be a speaker at the "Return to Your Roots" Food Sovereignty Conference being held in Okmulgee, Okla., on March 21, 2009, hosted by the Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative and cosponsored by the Muscogee Creek Nation.

Tsyunhehkwa has a staff of 13 people who work with the community's needs and their goals. Jeff says he couldn't accomplish any of it without the support and help of the Oneida Nation, their community and friends.

The organization has two main goals which include growing food and educating people. Their mission statement reflects how much responsibility for the well-being of the Oneida people they hold, "Playing a pivotal role in the reintroduction of high quality, organically grown foods that will ensure a healthier and more fulfilling life for the Onyoteaka, and being the facilitators of positive dietary and nutritional change."

Jeff will be the first to say that to understand the role and responsibility as a food producer one must hear a portion of their creation story.

> *"... the creation story tells us that the medicines are placed here for our sustenance. It is our responsibility to honor and acknowledge these spirits, which encourages them to continue with their appointed responsibilities."* - Jeff Metoxen

Here is an excerpt of their information of the Creation story: When the humans had been created, Shukwayatisu instructed them that all that was needed for a good life was readily available to them. They would want for nothing, there was water food, medicines-everything needed to sustain them. All that was asked of the humans was to gather what was provided and give thanks.

Over time, the Oneidas failed to provide this recognition and ignored these responsibilities. A Seneca Prophet of the people named Handsome Lake told the people that "The Three Sisters" (the corn, beans and squash) wanted to leave this world because the people were not recognizing them in their ceremonies and giving thanks for all that they provided. Handsome Lake knew the children would go hungry, and everyone would have no food to live and strengthen their bodies. Handsome Lake explained to the people that they had forgotten their responsibilities, and that the Three Sisters were going to leave this world if the people continued in this way. The people recognized they had failed and began again to honor the Three Sisters in their ceremonies."

On their web site at: http://www.oneidanation.org/tsyunhehkwa, it explains that during their ceremonies they open with their Thanksgiving address:

"At that time all of creation is listening to make sure that we mention them, and provide them proper recognition. The people included the corn, beans and squash, and they have continued to stay with us. It is our responsibility to honor and acknowledge these spirits, which encourages them to continue with their appointed responsibilities."

Although they use modern farm equipment to plant the white corn of the Oneida's, Jeff explains that they hand harvest to keep the traditions alive. They braid the corn, which is another traditional process to dry the corn; weaving 65 ears together making a long braid of corn which is looped at the end. This helps the tradition process of drying the corn. "Our white corn isn't like sweet corn, it has to dry down," says Jeff. "We dry it over a few months until it bakes down to 12 percent moisture."

According to Jeff, their corn isn't made to eat right off of the field. It will turn to mush if cooked fresh. But it is a perfect corn to dry and store for later use. It has a very strong hull so the hard wood ash is used to open the hull up and release the nutrients when it is prepared to eat. They've had it scientifically analyzed and found that the tradition of using wood ash increases the protein availability of the corn greatly.

It's another example that traditional food is healthier than modern food. This corn, having much less starch and a higher protein content than today's sweet corn, is better for the body.

"We have a challenge on how to get the information across. It is an encouragement role," says Jeff. "We are not here to tell the people what to do but a role of advising. Most people are not interested in giving up modern foods or eating at restaurants so we suggest mixing the traditional foods in with their daily lives."

Evidence has shown over and over that humans of all races were not designed to eat processed food.

"We are doing what we can here to share this information with our community. And that includes Native and non-Native people," says Jeff. "It's important to get this information out there. There is no set order or walls, our communities include everybody."

For more information on the "Return to Your Roots" Conference, go to www.mvskokefood.org or call (918) 756-5915. Jeff Metoxen can be reached at (920) 869-2141.

Community Calendar

• Sand Springs Indian Education hosts stomp dance

SAND SPRINGS — Sand Springs Indian Education will be hosting a benefit stomp dance on Sat., Feb. 28 from 7 p.m., - 11 p.m., at the Clyde Boyd Middle School on 305 W. 35th St., (off Hwy. 97).

Fish Pond will be serving as the host ground and participants are asked to please bring their own chairs. Proceeds will benefit the Jerre Brokaw/Alice Kemp Memorial Scholarship Fund.

There will be a 50/50, cake walk, door prizes and concessions available. For more information, please contact the Indian Education Office at (918) 246 - 1583.

• OIHC's "Love your heart" event

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee Indian Health Center will host a "Love your heart" event from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Senior Nutrition Center on Wed., Feb. 18.

The event will feature heart disease information, blood pressure screenings, healthy heart recipes, health record cards, door prizes and refreshments in honor of American Heart Month.

Heart disease affects many Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens and is the leading cause of death for the Native American population. Don't be a statistic and learn how to prevent heart disease.

For more information, please contact Rebecca Stovall at the Okmulgee Indian Health Center by phone at (918) 756 - 0206.

BIRTHDAYS

Solomon L. Johnson Jr.

DRAPER, Utah, — Solomon L. Johnson Jr. celebrated his 27th birthday on Feb. 20.

He is the son of Solomon L. Johnson, Sr. and Delores Francoso.

He has one sibling Rachel Britt.

Grandparents are John Francoso and Virigina Gonzales and Cy and Rose Johnson.

He is of the Bird Clan.

BIRTHS

Mikeal Billie Russell

STILLWATER — Mikeal Billie Russell was born on Jan. 1, 2009 at Hillcrest Women's Health Center.

She weighted 8 pounds and 3 ounces and was 19 and 1/4 inches in length.

Her parents are Misty Billy and Bill Russell.

Maternal grandparents are David Billy and Carolyn Billy.

Paternal grandparents are Emma Russell and the late William “RED” Russell.

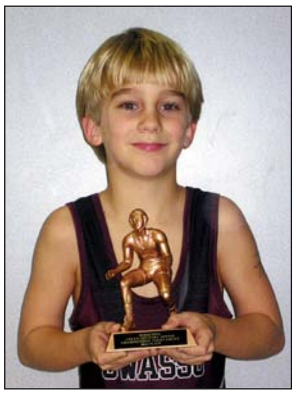
Maternal great grandparents are Woodrow and Rhoda Burgess and the late Rev. Frank and Annie Billy.

She is of the Deer Clan and of the Tallahasse Tribal Town.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Hayden Chase Hart

OWASSO — Hayden Chase Hart wrestled with the Future Owasso Rams (FOR) program and won his first trophy at a tournament in Berryhill.



He also played football in the third grade Black Team in the (FOR) program. This was his first year in tackle football and he played end position on defense and tight end on offense. He also played soccer in the spring.

He is the son of Bradley and Shawna Spradling Hart.

His grandparents are Jack and Yvonne Haikey Spradling.

He is of the Bear Clan and the Cheyaha Tribal Town. His family home church is Haikey Chapel Methodist Church where his grandparents still attend. He is the great grandson of the late Jesse Louis (White Bear) Haikey, who was an original allottee, New Born 54.

Hunter Kane Hart

OWASSO — Hunter Kane Hart recently graduated from the fifth grade at the Smith Elementary School in Owasso. During the graduation ceremonies, Hunter was recognized as an honor student, making straight As and was named as one of the top 10 athletes of the class.

He played basketball during the fall, winter and spring sessions and is looking forward to the coming year's season.

He played football in the future Owasso Rams youth program. He was a quarterback and tight end on offense and safety on defense for the sixth grade Silver Team and enjoyed the experience.

He is the son of Bradley and Shawna Spradling Hart and the grandson of Jack and Yvonne Haikey Spradling of Broken Arrow.

He is the great-grandson of the late Jesse Louis (White Bear) Haikey, of Broken Arrow who was an original allottee, New Born 54. He is of the Bear Clan and the Cheyaha Tribal Town. His family home church is Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church where his grandparents still attend.

Jimmy Dan Asbury

TULSA — Jimmy Dan Asbury, a member of the Holdenville Wolverines basketball team is pictured at right in a recent double overtime game versus Konowa.

He helped his team with their 57-54 victory by scoring 12 points.

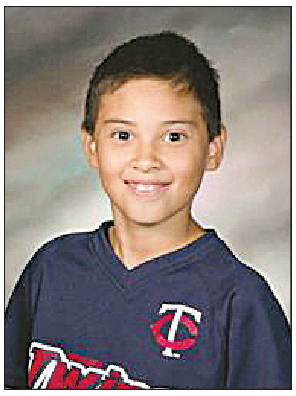
He is the son of Donnie and Angie Asbury, the grandson of Rachey Asbury of Wetumka and the late Frank Asbury. He has one uncle, Gary Asbury.

His younger brother, Jake, is a member of the junior high Wolverine team.

Photo credit goes to Tom Turner, Holdenville News.

Lvmhe Zediana

OKMULGEE — Lvmhe Zediana celebrated his 10th birthday on Jan. 18, with a bowling party.



He is the son of Tyson and Lisa Strange and Eric Zediana and has two siblings Alec Strange and Kaleigh Rae Strange.

Maternal grandparents are Mekko and Esther Bell. Maternal great-grandparents are late Lucille Bear (Berryhill) and late Harry and late Nettie Bell.

He is of the Skunk Clan and of the Kialegee Tribal Town.

Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:

Roll Number:__________________
Phone Number: (___)___________
Name: ______________________________________
Address:____________________________________
Date of Birth: ______________________________
Theme of the party:__________________________
Parents: ___________________________________
Siblings: ___________________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
School: ____________________________________
Clan: ______________________________________
Tribal Town:_________________________________

Birth:

Roll Number:__________________
Phone Number: (___)___________
Name: ______________________________________
Address:____________________________________
Date of Birth: ______________________________
Name of Hospital: ___________________________
Weight: ______ pounds ______ ounces______inches
Parents: ___________________________________
Siblings: ___________________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ______________________________________
Tribal Town:_________________________________

Announcements:

Roll Number:__________________
Phone Number: (___)___________
Name: ______________________________________
Address:____________________________________
Parents: ___________________________________
Siblings: ___________________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ______________________________________
Tribal Town:_________________________________
Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Contact Starla Bush by phone at (918) 732 - 7636 or by E-mail at SBush@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Tulsa press conference aims to gain support for the elimination of Indian mascots

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

TULSA — For Louis Gray, the issue of the terms “redskins” and “savages,” when used as sports mascots, is pretty simple. It’s racist.

Photo courtesy of Native American Times

Tulsa Indian Coalition Against Racism President Louis Gray speaks to reporters gathered at the Tulsa Press Club for a news conference concerning Senate Bill 765, the Oklahoma Anti-Discriminatory Mascots Act. Gray and her organization are urging supporters to lobby their Senators, to ensure that the measure passes.

“These terms are just like the n-word for us,” Gray told a host of reporters at the Tulsa Press Club for a news conference to drum up support for the Oklahoma Anti-Discriminatory Mascots Act. “I just recoil every time I hear the words.”

More than a dozen churches and civil rights groups joined Gray’s group, the Tulsa Indian Coalition against Racism, at the conference on Jan. 30 to support the measure that is being introduced to the state by Sen. Judy Eason McIntyre as Senate Bill 765. The Act specifically refers to the terms “Savages” and “Redskins” as derogatory, but it could cover other names considered offensive to Native Americans.

McIntyre, an African-American state senator, introduced a similar bill four years ago. That bill died in a Senate committee. Tulsa Union public schools have been the highest-profile school in the area to keep their “Redskin” mascot and have been at the center of attention when it comes to protests and debate. But Union district spokeswoman Gretchen Haas-Bethell believes that the term isn’t necessarily specific to Indians.

“There are multiple interpretations of the historical meaning and roots of the word ‘redskin,’” said Hass-Bethell. “Some of these histories vary markedly to the point where it’s impossible for anyone to claim that any one definition or origin of the term is authoritative.”

Other schools and universities in the state have changed mascots over the years, citing a desire to be sensitive to the issues that might seem offensive to Oklahoma’s Native population. Northeastern State University athletic teams, located in Tahlequah in the heart of Cherokee country, are now the River-Hawks as opposed to the Redmen.

This name change was made official in May of 2006, even though the NCAA found the schools mascot name to be neither offensive nor abusive to Native Americans.

“We must be committed to the education and the dialogue that will end cultural inequities,” said NSU President Dr. Larry Williams at the time of the change.

Southeastern Oklahoma State University teams in Durant are now the Savage Storm rather than the Savages. According to Haas-Bethell, Tulsa Union has no plans of changing it’s mascot, but said the district is “always open to discussion concerning any issue that affects our schools or our students.”

The TICAR also organized a Lobby Day at the State Senate earlier this month on Feb. 4, for backers of SB 765 to urge their senators to support the measure.

For any additional information on how to support the Oklahoma Anti-Discriminatory Mascots Act visit www.ticarok.org.

OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

What happened to the true power forward position in basketball?

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

To answer this question is to first pose a question that needs to be answered before this, and that is “what has happened to the game of basketball itself?” Specifically, I am referring to professional basketball.

The college game has certainly been revolutionized, but has managed to stay true to its spirit by the sincerity of players giving it their all because of their love for the game. That is why you find most people that enjoy the college game more. I have to admit that I enjoy the pro game more, especially during the playoffs, that is the time when you do find players giving their all. Which leads back to the beginning of this column concerning the “true power forward” and his ‘alleged’ demise. The NBA misses the true power forward and that can be seen in the daily grind of a grueling weekly schedule, but this can be especially seen during the time of the playoffs. The Los Angeles Lakers were defeated by the Boston Celtics, I’m proud to say, in the finals last June. Boston played a more “physical” game which is what teams need during their playoff run, hence the need for the true power forward.

Due to modern human engineering, physics, or whatever you want to call it, players today are fast, leaner and more sleek than their counterparts of only a decade ago. If you don’t believe me take a look at Kevin Garnett, Dirk Nowitzki of today and Charles Barkley and Karl Malone back then.

So Whatever happened to the true power forward position? Oh his spirit still appears once in a while, especially during the playoffs in the sense of physical, tough, play, but he is gone, at least he is for now.

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

Where have you gone to Karl Malone? Can you hear me Kevin McHale? Wes Unseld even? Where in the world is Charles Barkley? OK, you can find Charles Barkley, and it will probably be in a jail cell soon if he doesn’t quit drinking and driving! What I mean is, where have these guys’ style of play and their positions gone in the modern NBA game? It’s crazy. These guys are Hall-of-Famers and they paved their way to basketball immortality with a hard-nosed style and with their backs to the basket. They didn’t shoot threes all game. If they had, they probably would have found themselves parked on the bench.

The “4” is history folks. Ironically, it hopped the pond and went to hide over in European basketball. Now, the only place you can find a power forward is in Venice or Madrid, not Boston or Utah. What have we been stuck with? Combo guards. That’s right, combo guards. These freakish hybrids are 6’9” but can drain from long distance. People have the audacity to label Mavericks star Dirk Nowitzki a power forward. Somewhere Dennis Rodman is shaking his head. Nowitzki is softer than Charmin and they want to put the adjective power in front of his position? No way, I ain’t buying it. So The Worm, The Mailman and their buddies will have to be a thing of the past for now. Bigger bodies are now more athletic and in tune with the fast-paced game. It’s a cycle and it always happens in sports. But, it sure would be nice to see a few more bangers. Especially for a team that wants to win it all, they’ve always had at least one.

Contact Gerald Wofford by phone at (918) 732 - 7635 or by e-mail at GWofford@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Sports Calendar

• 2009 annual All-Indian “Madness in March”

HENRYETTA — Basketball fans take heed. Look no further for your hoops fix. The annual all-Indian “Madness in March” basketball tournament is better than ever in 2009.

4 Love of the Game organization’s nationally renowned mecca of Indian roundball is about to celebrate its sixth birthday with some new twists and, as usual, some great basketball action.

Things get started on March 18 at the Henryetta Inn and Dome with the College Prep Day sponsored by Sterling University. Several colleges will be on hand as well as financial advisors and counselors distributing information on the college experience to the student-athletes.

In addition, strength and conditioning professional Mark Rozen will be on hand to test the athletes on their physical abilities and where they rank in regard to other teens across the country and the world. Highlighting the first day will be a trip to Oklahoma City to see the brand-new hometown NBA Thunder take on the Chicago Bulls. Only those athletes who fully participate in the College Prep Day will be allowed to attend the game.

The action heats up on the court on Thursday, March 19 with the beginning of pool play. Teams from Okla., Kansas, Iowa, Neb., S.D., and others will duke it out for tournament seed position. A new, out-of-state team to this year’s event will be making its way to Henryetta all the way from Wyoming. The tournament will begin on Sat., March 21 with the Final Four and Championships to conclude on Sun., after the conclusion of church services in the afternoon.

Capping off the week will be the awards banquet immediately following the championship games. The event will once again be held at the Henryetta Civic Center and will be highlighted by tourney awards, and scholarship presentations.

“We can’t stress enough how important it is to apply for the scholarships,” said board member David Pascale. “It’s just like giving away free money for college.”

Also at the awards banquet eight boys and eight girls all-stars will be selected to attend the All-West Classic tournament in Denver to represent 4 Love of the Game.

The organization would also like to thank the Creek Nation administration and National Council for their continued support of the tournament and for having an invested interest in all Native American youth.

Name this Page Contest

Win a bag full
of items donated by
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Programs

The Chief's Council on Youth Initiative is searching for a creative & unique name for this page. The monthly extra edition will soon feature projects, programs & events for youth.

Entries must be 18 & under.
Deadline is March 16th.
Submit your entries to:
Rebecca Landsberry
P.O. BOX 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447
rlandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Submissions must include:
Full Name, Address, Contact Number & Age

COMING SOON... NEWS JUST FOR OUR YOUTH

Contact Rebecca Landsberry by phone at (918) 732 - 7743 or by E-mail at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

River Spirit celebrates grand opening March 31

GAMING - A5

Education Spotlight: Okemah Indian Community

EDUCATION - A8

MUSCOGEE NATION
NEWS

MARCH 2009
Volume 39, Issue 3
SEMI-MONTHLY

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

Chief's Order under fire

• Executive Order will affect all chartered communities

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MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Pictured above is Principal Chief A.D. Ellis flanked by National Council Recording Secretary Terry Fish (left) and Speaker Thomas Yahola (right) at the Emergency Session on Mon., March 3. Representatives from many of the communities named in the case voiced their opinions on the Chief's Executive Order that will restructure the way gaming revenue is distributed to communities within the Nation. A hearing for case CV 2009-33 is set for Tues., March 17 at 2 p.m., in the MCN District Courtroom.

SHAPING THE FUTURE

OKMULGEE – On Friday, February 27, 2009, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis signed an Executive Order for the proclamation of actions required for the Muscogee (Creek) Indian Gaming Communities.

The Order states, "By virtue of the executive authority vested in me as Principal Chief by the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation (the "Nation"), it is hereby ordered that the following actions be adopted and implemented:"

MCN/*Thompson Gouge*

SEE COMMUNITIES - B2

College to build in Fall '09

•CMN inks deal for 15-acre tract of land near OSUIT campus

by Thompson Gouge
MCN Public Relations

OKMULGEE — Principal Chief A.D. Ellis sat down with Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology President Bob Klabenes for a press conference on Fri., Feb. 20, 2009 on the College of the Muscgoee Nation's newly purchased land.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation and OSUIT jointly announced that fifteen acres of university land has been purchased for the College of the Muscogee Nation's campus. Chief Ellis and President Klabenes completed the transfer of land to the Muscogee Nation at the College of the Muscogee Nation Administration building.

This 15-acre tract of land was purchased by an Indian Community Development Block Grant (I.C.D.B.G.) with matching funds from gaming revenue of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The campus will consist of a multi-use Facility, cultural and learning center, classroom building, fitness center, amphitheater and Mvskoke garden.

Tribal and academic representatives included Muscogee (Creek) National Council Speaker Thomas Yahola, Rep. James Jennings, Chief of Staff Mike Flud and CMN regents Chair Ramona Mason, President James King and Academic Dean Angela Bunner.

Chief Ellis stated, "Gaming money was used to purchase this land for the benefit of tribal citizens and the community in general. This is a great event for both the Muscogee Nation and the state."

MNN/*Thompson Gouge*

Pictured (Front Row L-R) are President of Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology, Dr. Bob Klabenes, Principal Chief of the Muscogee Creek Nation, A.D. Ellis. Back Row L-R: College of the Muscogee Nation President. Dr James King, CMN Regents Chair, Ramona Mason, CMN Academic Dean, Angela Bunner, Speaker of the National Council, Speaker Thomas Yahola, National Council Rep. James Jennings, and Muscogee Creek Nation Chief of Staff Mike Flud.

Dr. Klabenes further emphasized, "This will be an excellent opportunity for all students pursing a post-secondary education. With this purchase, we will an educational complex composed of OSUIT, Green Country Technology Center and the CMN, all within a mile of one another."

Board of Regent's Chair Ramona Mason noted, "The Board is very pleased to have land for the campus and a site for our first building. I am excited for our students and tribal citizens as well."

The College of the Muscogee Nation is a two-year Associate Degree level higher education institution and one of four tribal colleges within the state of Oklahoma. The college plans to start construction on its first building in six months.

"Doing Business in Indian Country" set for March 12

by Christopher Azbell
MCN District Court

OKMULGEE—The Muscogee (Creek) Nation's 7th annual "Doing Business in Indian Country" Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Seminar is set for March 12 and 13, 2009 at the tribal complex in Okmulgee, Okla.

The two-day event will focus on ways in which tribes and businesses can work together to positively affect the faltering economy. Professors, educators and other dignitaries will discuss issues associated with energy development, proposed Class II gaming regulations and tribal investments.

SEE BUSINESS - A4

> *"Doing Business in Indian Country" Seminar to Focus on Stimulating the Economy*
>
> - **2009** *Muscogee (Creek) Nation* **CLE**

River Spirit grand opening set for March 31

by Pat Schnake
River Spirit Public Relations Manager

TULSA — River Spirit Casino will open March 31, according to Director of Marketing Jennifer Cross.

The new $195 million casino, located just south of the existing casino at 81st and Riverside, will include one of Oklahoma's largest gaming floors. The 300,000 square-foot casino will feature state-of-the-art amenities including 2,800 high-tech machines, 24 table games, 15 poker games, four dining venues and the uniquely–designed Mystic River Lounge.

"River Spirit Casino will bring a one-of-kind gaming, entertainment and dining experience to Tulsa and the surrounding areas," said Cross. "We are extremely excited about our opening and showcasing this incredible new facility to our guests."

SEE SPIRIT - A5

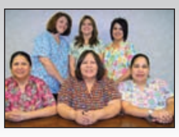
EXECUTIVE A2
From the Office of Principal Chief A.D. Ellis

TRIBAL COUNCIL A3
National Council minutes

LEGISLATIVE A4
Rep. Alexander responds to statements made by Principal Chief

BUSINESS/GAMING A5
Tulsa Casino will host grand opening later this month

HEALTH A6
Smile for Dental Assistant Recognition Week



PROGRAMS/NOTICES A7
VASO seeks assistance with KIA project

Communications Department - P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447

EXECUTIVE

Muscogee Nation News
STAFF
Manager - Lucas Taylor
Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
Contributing Copy Editor - Kellen Bible
Senior Writer - Angel Ellis
Graphic Design - Carla Brown
Graphic Design - Tyler Roberds
Advertising - Ruth Bible
Feature Writer - Gerald Wofford
Sports Writer - Jason Salsman
Reporter - Starla Bush
Reporter - Joshua Slane
Reporter - Jennifer Taryole
Circulation - Wilma Murphy

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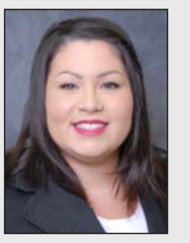
Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month. *The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Letter from the Editor



Hensci *Muscogee Nation News* fans, I figured since there won't be an Extra Edition published this month, I wanted to take the opportunity to put my two cents here in the corner.

Wild onion season is in full swing, the daffodils are popping up and the breeze is slowly warming up - Spring has officially sprung. Ok well maybe not "officially" until the 20th, but I'm still glad I don't have to wear a coat outside anymore!

For many of the sports fans, this month means much more than pots-of-gold and little green men wearing tights, March means "Madness." Jason has the full scoop on the tournament on page B7, but the showing of these amazing Indian athletes from all over the United States to the Mvskoke Etvlwv is a sight to be seen. If you're a fan of Native sports, 4 Love of the Game's Madness in March tournament is an event not to be missed.

In other news, you have probably noticed the large number of letters to the Editor and I hope you are as excited as I am about this spike in the interest of the well-being of our Nation. Keep 'em coming and we will continue to facilitate your comments, concerns or issues regarding Indian Country.

From the Office of the Principal Chief

From Chief Ellis

Submitted March 2, 2009

This is a quick and short explanation of my Executive Order and petition filed in court February 27, 2009. I will have more information in the next edition.

Six (6) communities of the twenty-four (24) that are active have small casinos and get 50 percent of all the profits that are generated. These six are on tribal property, in tribal buildings, and are operated by the Nation, yet they still give the communities 50 percent. For instance, Duck Creek Community last month got $300,000.00, which was their 50 percent. The 50 percent law was passed years ago by the Council.

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis

From my stand point, the gaming revenue belongs to all Creek people, not just the few hundred that belong to these gaming communities. Communities like Sapulpa, Glenpool, Wetumka, and many more don't get the chance to fly to Florida or charter buses to Branson, Missouri or get free appliances for their homes. We estimate that these six communities have approximately 21 to 25 million dollars in the bank at this time. At present, we have no way of knowing. The following are the gaming communities: Eufaula, Checotah, Duck Creek, Okemah, Holdenville and Bristow.

I believe all gaming monies should come to the Nation, in the Nation's bank account to be used for health care, education, etc. for all Creek people, not the lucky few who happen to live in a certain communities. Politically, this is unfair because these powerful communities dictate what their council representatives should do for their reelection.

In a few more years, if nothing is done, these communities will have more money than this Nation. That would mean that they could even control the Chief's position along with all other elected official. I will not let this happen. I'm asking the communities who have no way to generate revenue to come forward and demand that they be treated equally. Also Tulsa, Muscogee, and Okmulgee might even demand their share of Casino revenue from their local Casino.

The most serious part is that if a casino and its profits are not used correctly, this could jeopardize our entire gaming operation. If this happens we would be destroyed financially. This Nation has to have control of all gaming operations and gaming revenue to correctly follow federal law.

Mvto!

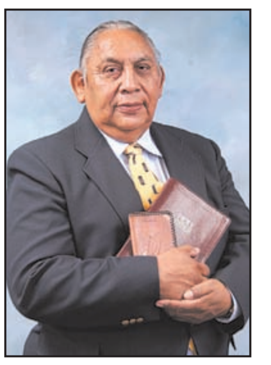
From the Office of the Second Chief

Second Opinion

Submitted Feb. 27, 2009

Henks Ce! Blessings to all the citizens of the great Muscogee Creek Nation! I want to introduce to you a campaign on the war against methamphetamine which is infecting our People, young and old alike.

The recent headlines in the newspapers and on the television networks have focused on the dramatic increase in the use of methamphetamine and the dangers this drug possesses. The Muscogee Creek Nation is not immune to this crisis.



Second Chief Berryhill

The Second Chief's Office, Lighthorse, and the DEA are addressing this concern by initiating a campaign titled "Don't Let Meth Fool You!" Hopefully, this campaign will create an awareness of the addictive nature of this epidemic. The "Don't Let Meth Fool You" campaign will include public service announcements on radio and television, posters, community trainings, and continuing articles from the Creek Nation departments (Social Services, Children & Family, Indian Child Welfare), and law enforcement.

Within the last week, arrests were made in a southeast Oklahoma City motel where two men were found manufacturing meth and, in neighboring Broken Arrow, the local police have busted nine meth labs so far this year. The migration of this drug into the Creek Nation boundaries should not surprise you. The Broken Arrow Police report the spike in meth labs are due to a new method called "shake and bake." This recipe requires fewer ingredients and takes about half the time to process than the old way.

The Muscogee Creek Nation is the first Tribal Agency nationwide, in conjunction with the DEA, to join a High Intensity Drug Area task force. The Native American program, of which the Creek Nation is a sub unit, has experienced a number of success stories. Recent arrests have involved the seizure of 12 lbs. of meth within the Creek Nation boundaries which resulted in the dismantling of an international drug trafficking organization.

I will continue to update you on what you, as family and community members, can do to recognize the characteristics of meth users and the everyday household chemicals used to manufacture this drug.

Alfred Berryhill
2nd Chief of the Muscogee Creek Nation

Letters to the Editor

Citizen asks for clarification of housing policy and procedure

On July 3, 2008 I went to Creek Nation Housing where I interviewed JoEllen Frank. JoEllen is in charge of admissions for Creek Nation Housing.

I asked JoEllen what the process to get a house through Creek Nation housing was. She stated that you were required to fill out an application. Once the application was completed your application information was verified and if you met the qualifications, you were approved for the waiting list.

She stated that there were preferences that figured in as you were assigned a place on the list. Full through half-blood quantum were first. There were then factors such as having a large family, being elderly, handicapped or disabled that were used in the process. I would then go further down the list than ½ blood quantum, single and being a member of another tribe. The approval date on your initial application was also a factor.

JoEllen states that their application and approval policies have changed several times in the last three years.

When the yearly budget for the Housing Department is set each year the Development Division calls for the number of files that will be needed to use the allotted amount of money. These files are updated by admissions and forwarded to Development. These will be the citizens that will be offered housing for that year. In the past year the policy was changed that allowed for half of the files will be full to ½ blood quantum and the other half will be less than ½ blood quantum.

I asked JoEllen if it was possible to move someone up on the list. She stated that you couldn't do that because they entered all data into a computer system and the computer sets where that individual should be. She did state that a person could move up if there was a change in their status ex. (a person reached 62 years old, it would move them up to the elderly category). She did state that the Deputy Director of Housing could direct that files be sent to the Development division, or that the Development Division could request a specific file.

I asked JoEllen if she was the only one that could forward a file to the Development Division and she stated that she was. I asked what happened if a file was needed while she was on vacation and she stated that they would wait until she got back.

I asked JoEllen what chance a single person with no children and less that ½ blood quantum would have receiving housing and she told me that it would be slim.

I ask then ask Jo Ellen 0if she had ever been approached by anyone to move a person up the list and he stated that she hadn't. I asked her if anyone had ever told her to move someone up on the list and she told me that they hadn't.

I showed JoEllen paperwork showing Brandy Hudgens as a single person with no children with less than ½ blood quantum had received a house this year. She told me that it was because it was built on donated land. She stated that Geri Johnson had requested all files with donated land be forwarded to the Development Division.

(The memorandum is written to Chief Ellis from Shannon Cozzoni, First Assistant Attorney General regarding the subject, Criminal Investigation of Receipt of Indian Housing, Dated July 7, 2008).

The following memorandum is in response to a request to investigate the receipt of a home from the Housing Division's affordable housing activities by Gary Hudgens and his children, Brandy and Clinton. Based on information gathered by interviews, a summary of which is attached, it is our conclusion that the issues presented are administrative issues that should be remedied within the Housing Department:

It appears that Mr. Hudgens received financial assistance from the mortgage assistance program, which presumably is an exception to the low-income requirement. Mr. Hudgens purchased property on his own from a vendor utilized by the Housing Division and built a house utilizing a vendor who does business with the Housing Division. There is no criminal action related to this transaction. However, we recommend the development of specific policy regarding the involvement of employees with vendors.

Mr. Hudgens' children both received a home from the Housing Division according to Ms. Frank. Although apparently eligible for a home, they should never have received a home under current policies of preference; however, it appears an exception to policy was granted for "donated property" construction when Gerri Berryhill requested those files. There is no allegation that the Hudgens' children falsified any documents. Instead someone internal to the housing Division violated policies and moved them up on the list. The Housing Division should determine if that person was Gerri Berryhill or if the request was made by someone above her.

As you are aware, this is not the first time this office has received complaints that people were receiving homes because of their relationships or political affiliation. In accordance with MCNCA Title 24, Sec. 2-102.B.the Deputy Director of the Housing Division shall "supervise, direct and monitor the day-to-day work and activities of the Housing Division's employees, contractors or other persons or entities". The Deputy Director of the Housing Division reports directly to the Executive Director. Although our office is always available to assist, direct responsibility in insuring that policies are adhered to lies with Deputy Director and the Executive Director. We have no authority to effect the adherence to policies as that is an administrative function.

Based on this complaint and others, you may want to consider a programmatic audit of the Nation's Housing Division. In addition, we recommend specific policy implementation regarding applications of Housing Division employees and their immediate family. You may also want to consider the removal of some or all of the signature authority granted to the Deuty director or the Executive Director.

Randy Lawmaster
Criminal Investigator

Constitutional Commission responds to Jones' comments

Dear Editor:

This is a response by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitutional Convention Commission to Mr. Gordon L. Jones' letter to the Editor cited in the February 2009 issue of the *Muscogee Nation News*.

It is a fact that Mr. Jones had sent in a proposal to amend the Constitution as did many other Muscogee (Creek) citizens. On August 23, 2008 a letter to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Board was delivered requesting verification of Mr. Gordon L. Jones' citizenship. On October 23, 2008 the Citizenship Board reported that they had no record that Mr. Gordon L. Jones was enrolled.

Based on the October 28, 2008 letter from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Board the proposal from Mr. Jones was eliminated in the process of organizing all submitted documents. However, Mr. Jones' proposal was in reference to elimination of blood quantum and there were 12 other proposals listing the same issue. The Constitutional Convention Commission combined all proposals with the same issue; therefore Mr. Jones' issue continued to be presented before the Constitutional Convention and acted upon by all those present.

On a final note, each Commissioner is also a Muscogee (Creek) tribal member selected to serve on the Constitutional Commission by each district's National Council Representatives, the Executive Office of the Principal Chief and the Judicial Branch of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The Commissioners were charged with a very difficult task to develop a process, prepare, organize and create a historical event that all Muscogee (Creek) voters could experience. Many hours of debate, discussions, interpretations and decisions were made by this group of tribal members who had to set aside all personal agendas and come together as a working team. The guiding factor was always to follow the Constitution and to maintain that the Convention was for the Muscogee (Creek) citizens.

Sincerely,
Patrick E. Moore, Chairman
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Constitutional Convention Commission

LEGISLATIVE

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE **JANUARY 31, QUARTERLY SESSION**.

JANUARY 31, QUARTERLY SESSION

VETO MESSAGE:

- MOTION MADE TO LET VETO STAND WITHOUT READING THE MESSAGE APPROVED (25-0-0)

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED (25-0-0) NCR 09-001, A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL AMENDING NCR 95-19 (A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CREATING AND ESTABLISHING THE POSITION OF FINANCIAL OFFICER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL) SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT**

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) TR 09-005, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH VIDEO GAMING TECHNOLOGIES, INC. FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) TR 09-008, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE FLUENT SPEAKERS OF THE EUCHEE LANGUAGE SPONSOR: **ROBERT HUFFT**; CO-SPONSOR: **R. BARNETT; T. YAHOLA; T. ANDERSON; K. MEDINA; C. QUIETT; L. WIND**

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) TR 09-009, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL A NEW SIGN FOR THE CREEK NATION CASINO DUCK CREEK AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS WITH THE SELECTED CONTRACTOR FOR SAID SIGN SPONSOR: **DAVID NICHOLS**

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) TR 09-012, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING WIRELESS SERVICE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND VERIZON WIRELESS AND FOR CELLULAR PHONES FOR THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE AND STAFF SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT**

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) NCA 09-002, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS AWARDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE KING COLE DEPOT TOURIST INFORMATION CENTER AND TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM PROJECT SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **L. CAHWEE** ($1,388,866.00)

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (17-8-0) NCA 09-003, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE KELLYVILLE INDIAN COMMUNITY BUILDING SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** ($1,354,751.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **PETE BEAVER; DAVID NICHOLS; KEEPER JOHNSON; TERRIE ANDERSON; JAMES JENNINGS; STEVE BRUNER; PAULA WILLITS** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

REPRESENTATIVES **ROGER BARNETT** AND **BILL FIFE** WERE OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-1-0) NCA 09-005, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET MODIFICATION FOR NCA 07-340 (A LAW FOR THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING AND APPROPRIATION FOR A RECORDS MANAGEMENT & MAINTENANCE PROJECT FOR MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TRIBAL DOCUMENTS) SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**

VOTING NO WAS REPRESENTATIVE **TRAVIS SCOTT**.

REPRESENTATIVE **ROGER BARNETT** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-006, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE TAX COMMISSION SPONSOR: **DAVID NICHOLS** ($40,231.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **ROGER BARNETT** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-010, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO SEVEN (7) OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) COMMUNITY CENTERS TO RENEW SATELLITE INTERNET SERVICES THROUGH WILD BLUE COMPANY FOR THE PURCHASE OF ALLOWING CITIZENS TO VIEW MEETINGS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL AND OTHER TRIBAL ACTIVITIES SPONSOR: **JAMES JENNINGS** ($7,767.60)

REPRESENTATIVE **ROGER BARNETT** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-011, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF THE COPS UNIVERSAL HIRING GRANT AND APPROPRIATING TRIBAL MATCHING FUNDS FOR THE LIGHTHORSE TRIBAL POLICE SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE** ($136,158.00)

REPRESENTATIVES **ROGER BARNETT** AND **BILL FIFE** WERE OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) NCA 09-012, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 07-031 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CREATING AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY SPONSOR: **LARRY CAHWEE**

REPRESENTATIVES **ROGER BARNETT** AND **BILL FIFE** WERE OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION NATIONAL COUNCIL
Session Palen - Cahkepohkaken (15)
2008-2009

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (20-3-0) NCA 09-013, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO DEPEW PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR ASSISTANCE TO PURCHASE THREE (3) PORTABLE HEART DEFIBRILLATORS SPONSOR: **DAVID HILL**; CO-SPOSNOR: **LARRY CAHWEE** ($2,204.09)

REPRESENTATIVE **ROGER BARNETT** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-2-1) NCA 09-015, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST TWO (2) TRIBAL YOUTH AND THEIR SPONSOR IN PARTICIPATING IN THE MID-YEAR UNITY CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. SPONSOR: **SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN** ($2,075.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **TERRIE ANDERSON** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

ABSTAINING WAS REPRESENTATIVE **CHERRAH QUIETT**.

REPRESENTATIVE **ROGER BARNETT** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-3) NCA 09-016, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST IN FUNDING THE 2009 "RETURN TO YOUR ROOTS FOOD SOVEREIGNTY SYMPOSIUM" SPONSOR: **TERRIE ANDERSON**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **J. JENNINGS; D. NICHOLS** ($21,300.00)

ABSTAINING WAS REPRESENTATIVES: **TRAVIS SCOTT; LENA WIND** AND **CHERRAH QUIETT**.

REPRESENTATIVE **ROGER BARNETT** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-1) NCA 09-018, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO COVER EXPENSES INCURRED BY AND/OR PARTIALLY FUND THE 2008 ANNUAL NATIVE AMERICAN AA SOBRIETY POWWOW HELD DECEMBER 27TH AND 28TH, 2008 IN TULSA, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER** ($500.00)

ABSTAINING WAS REPRESENTATIVE **CHERRAH QUIETT**.

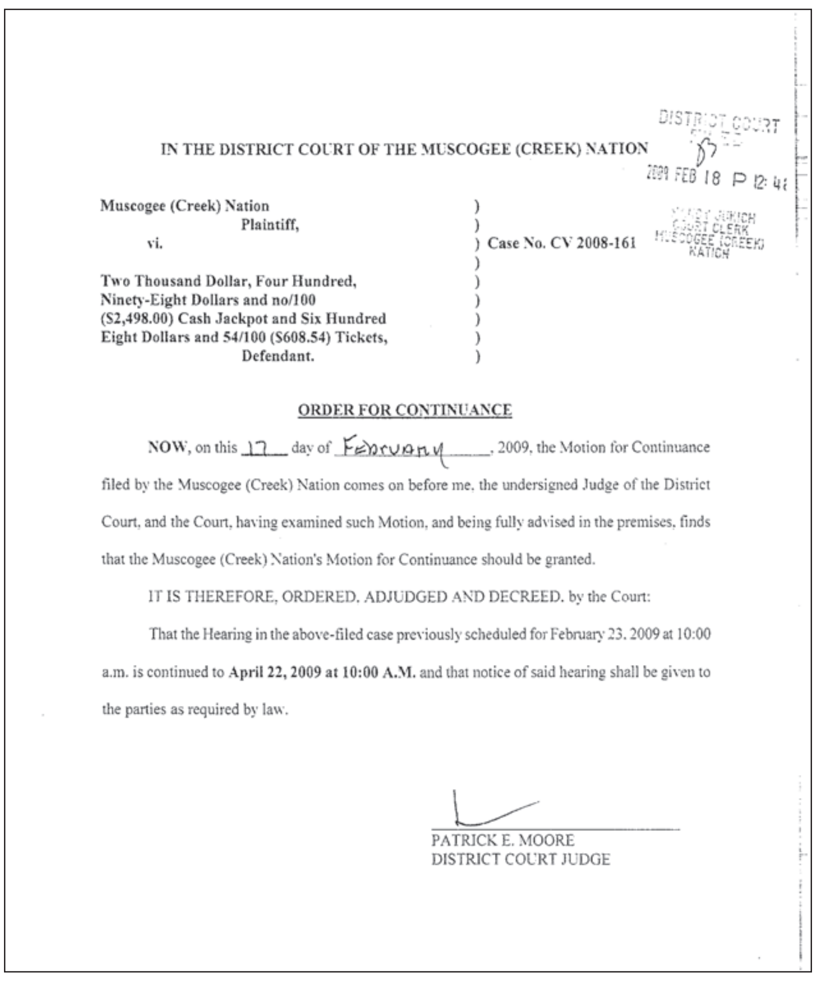
REPRESENTATIVE **ROGER BARNETT** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-2-1) NCA 09-019, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST AND ELDERLY CREEK CITIZEN SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE** ($821.23)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **TERRIE ANDERSON** AND **PAULA WILLITS**.

ABSTAINING WAS REPRESENTA-

Legal Notices (con't on B2)



DISTRICT COURT FILED 2009 FEB 18 P 12:41 NANCY JUKICH COURT CLERK MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Plaintiff,
vi.) Case No. CV 2008-161

Two Thousand Dollar, Four Hundred,
Ninety-Eight Dollars and no/100
($2,498.00) Cash Jackpot and Six Hundred
Eight Dollars and 54/100 ($608.54) Tickets,
Defendant.

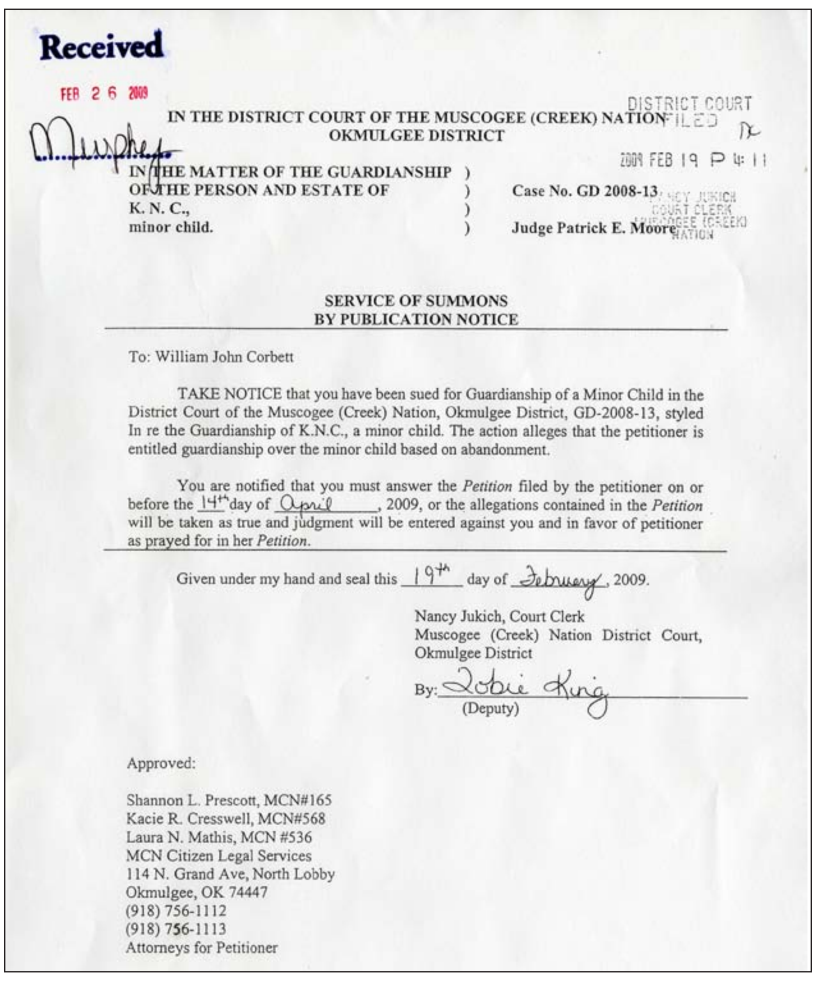
ORDER FOR CONTINUANCE

NOW, on this 17 day of February, 2009, the Motion for Continuance filed by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation comes on before me, the undersigned Judge of the District Court, and the Court, having examined such Motion, and being fully advised in the premises, finds that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Motion for Continuance should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE, ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED, by the Court:

That the Hearing in the above-filed case previously scheduled for February 23, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. is continued to **April 22, 2009 at 10:00 A.M.** and that notice of said hearing shall be given to the parties as required by law.

PATRICK E. MOORE
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE



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DISTRICT COURT FILED 2009 FEB 19 P 4:11 NANCY JUKICH COURT CLERK MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP)
OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE OF) Case No. GD 2008-13
K. N. C.,)
minor child.) Judge Patrick E. Moore

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: William John Corbett

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for Guardianship of a Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD-2008-13, styled In re the Guardianship of K.N.C., a minor child. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner on or before the 14th day of April, 2009, or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 19th day of February, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By: Tobie King
(Deputy)

Approved:

Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kacie R. Cresswell, MCN#568
Laura N. Mathis, MCN #536
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113
Attorneys for Petitioner

Interior employees, including Chalakee Sisters, welcome First Lady Michelle Obama

Media Release
U.S. Department of the Interior

WASHINGTON, D.C. —Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar welcomed First Lady Michelle Obama to the Department of the Interior, hailing her as "a rock for the future of the nation." The third visit of the First Lady to a federal department since President Obama's inauguration featured a ceremony rooted in Interior's responsibilities to Native Americans-Indian drum rolls and presentation of a shawl marking her achievements.

Joined by some of the department's longest-serving employees on stage, the First Lady and Secretary thanked all employees for their service and reaffirmed President Barack Obama's commitment to investing in conservation to help put people back to work as well as his commitment to respecting sovereign Indian nations.

"At a time when so many Americans are out of work, sound energy and environmental policies are going to create thousands of jobs through the economic recovery and investment plan," Mrs. Obama told a capacity crowd of employees.

Employees presented the First Lady with a traditional American Indian woman's shawl with an appliqué horse pattern- a mark of respect to honor women of high achievements and distinction. Nedra Darling, Director of Public Affairs in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, presented the shawl, which was made by Marian Hansson, curator of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Sitting among the 16 DOI employees being honored by the First Lady, Michele Obama, were sisters Thelma Chalakee Harjo and Barbara Chalakee Davis of Arlington, Va., who are members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Their parents are the late Martha and Webster Chalakee of Okmulgee. The sisters were honored for their length of service to the Department. Harjo has 45 years and Davis has 47 years of service with the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

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Rep. Alexander responds to statements made by Principal Chief

by Rep. Sam Alexander
National Council Representative

OKMULGEE — The tribal web site contains a link to the Extraordinary Session held on Thurs., Feb. 12, 2009. There are a couple of errors in this story that need to be clarified.

The following remarks attributed to me by Chief Ellis at that session are incorrect:

- "Mr. Alexander mentioned the Chief has vetoed many qualified people."
- "It was mentioned the Executive Office failed to secure a tobacco compact."

Following is a copy of my prepared remarks that evening. The word 'veto' is never expressed. While there was discussion about initial tobacco compacts, there was no mention of the failure to secure a tobacco compact.

Please listen again to these remarks via internet broadcast to confirm what was actually said that night. You can make your own judgment.

"That we purportedly are the only Indian tribe in the country with a board over our health system is hardly a reason to destroy something that worked very well until recently.

The Principal Chief has shown how he would handle the medical arm of the tribe by suspending the Director with no explanation at his first opportunity. Phrases like "not in the best interests" of the Nation and "change in direction" don't cut it. We enjoy a tripartite form of government, and this branch of government remains uninformed about what's happened to the Director. When communications are this poor, this body cannot rely on the administration to be open and honest.

Most of us know that, by having this health board in place, politics are kept at a distance. A similar comparison would be to look at how we buffer tribal gaming in the same manner. The National Indian Gaming Commission expects tribes to keep the politics out, and for good reason. In the past, we've had Principal Chiefs who believed they could interfere with gaming, and a strong GOAB kept them out. At one time, Rocket Bingo had the keys to our Tulsa Casino and operated their ball calling out of those offices.

There does not appear to be the requisite talent in the administration to take on the responsibility of something as serious and technically complicated as our medical health care system. An example is the failure to have a plan or replacement when the current Director was suspended. This administration suspended the current Director and, with little preparation or planning, appointed an acting director who had a full schedule as a medical doctor.

In the summer of 2006, the Tulsa Creek Indian Community presented three small maintenance projects and had three bids for each. They asked for legislation for these needed repairs. About the same time, Chief Ellis asked this body to quit writing such legislation because his administration would handle things adequately. These projects and legislation were given to him in Speaker Tiger's office. The driveway still has a huge hole by the kitchen entrance; they have no sign and do not have lighting for the north parking lot.

In the spring of 2006, the administration announced the award of an $800,000 HUD grant for a multipurpose building at the Claude Cox Omniplex and asked for $1.5 million for the tribe's part. A couple of months later they were back asking for another $1.5 million and said we would be playing basketball over there in a year. In December 2008, they presented legislation that was flawed mathematically, asking for yet another $1.2 million. This project displays the inability to perform.

Finally, the retail tobacco business is under assault by the State of Oklahoma. The administration has failed miserably in protecting the retail tobacco license holders and was in fact asleep at the wheel prior to the expiration of the initial tobacco compacts.

Now, they want to take over your health care system. Not on my watch. This legislation is unrealistic and unworthy of your support.

Business

Continued from A1

With a full slate of renowned speakers, the Conference will also highlight substantive changes in Federal Indian Law and provide an overview of state and federal court cases potentially impacting tribal interests.

University of Oklahoma Professor Shelly Grunsted commented on the groundswell of enthusiasm surrounding this year's event "The 7th Annual 'Doing Business in Indian Country' CLE will be our most substantive event yet. With the current economic outlook and credit crunch, I think more businesses are seeking out tribes to engage in joint ventures and to use tribal coffers as financial backing rather than risky Wall Street investment banks. With an unemployment rate far below the national average, tribes in Oklahoma have proven their economic activities have greatly helped in the preservation of much needed jobs."

The CLE is accredited through the Oklahoma Bar Association and lawyers can earn up to thirteen hours of OBA approved credit which includes one hour of ethics. At a recession-proof price of $150.00, the tribe wants to ensure the conference remains affordable for all interested parties. Judge Patrick E. Moore recently commented on the event, "I really think our CLE continues to be America's best buy. We are continuing to lay the groundwork for all individuals seeking to do business with tribes. Interestingly, there are massive changes going on in Washington D.C., that will provide a huge economic boost for Indian tribes. The key is to have timely access to the information and the ability to respond when the opportunity arises. Hopefully, our CLE will help in disseminating the information and identifying applicable areas where business opportunities may be available. This is a very interesting time for tribes and their business partners."

Individuals seeking additional information on the "Doing Business in Indian County" CLE can contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court at (918)-758-1400 or can log on to www.muscogeecreektribalcourt.org.

918.683.1825 Open 24 hours 3420 W. Peak Boulevard Muskogee, OK 74401 www.muscogee-casino.com

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TIME: THURSDAYS in MARCH at 7:00 PM

Prizes: The top 5 players during the qualifying rounds will win
1st Place - $500, 2nd Place - $200, 3rd Place - $125, 4th Place - $100, and 5th Place - $75.
The final round prizes will be
1st Place - $2,500, 2nd Place - $1,000, 3rd Place - $750, 4th Place - $500, and 5th Place - $250.

For registration forms see Guest Services booth, located at the entrance to the Casino
or
Download the registration forms online at www.creeknationcasino.net

Qualifying rounds on March 5, 12, 19, 26.
Final round on April 2

Spring Fling

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CASINO SPRING FLING
NOON - 10:00 PM
$10 Match Play for all Diamond Club members

SPRING FLING HOT SEAT DRAWINGS
NOON - 4:00 PM

SPRING FLING ELECTRONIC GAMES TOURNAMENT
4:30 PM - 9:00 PM.

March 21st

SPECIAL MARCH PROMOTIONS!

St. Patricks Day

ST. PATRICK'S HOT SEAT DRAWINGS
NOON - 4:00 PM

ST. PATRICKS ELECTRONIC GAMES TOURNAMENT
4:30 PM - 9:00 PM

March 17th

BUSINESS/GAMING

Grand opening this month

MNN/*Starla Bush*

RIVER SPIRIT Casino

A GRAND OCCASION

With something for everyone, the River Spirit could very well become the place to be. A sports bar with plenty of screens to watch your favorite games, upscale steak-house dining with wine and live piano music, the largest buffet in the state, the Mystic River lounge sporting the latest technology and display of free live entertainment, all combine under one roof making the River Spirit Casino the place to be.

Just to give an idea of how big and bold this new gaming, food and music hot spot will be, over 600 new employees will be hired just to keep it running smoothly. Not only will the casino be one of the leaders in the in the gaming industry in the State, but it will also help to give a boost to the economy here as well.

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Spirit

Continued from A1

Cross said River Spirit Casino will continue to provide guests first class customer service along with exciting promotions, special reward offers and huge cash payouts. Another feature, not found in other gaming facilities, will be a prestigious High Stakes Lounge, which will cater to the casino's loyal V.I.P customers.

"We pride ourselves on providing our guests with the best customer service of any gaming facility in the state," said Cross. "River Spirit Casino will allow us to enhance what our guests have already come to expect from us."

Cross said an additional 650 employees are being hired for River Spirit Casino.

"We have some great career opportunities at River Spirit Casino and we're proud to be able to contribute in a positive way to the Tulsa area job market and the area economy," said Cross.

River Spirit Casino will offer guests a wide variety of dining options. Ranging from Rain Bay Café, a 24-hour quick snack shop, to the upscale Elements Steakhouse and Grille – there's literally something for everyone.

Elements Steakhouse and Grille will offer new American cuisine. Adding to the dining experience will be a wide selection of wines, a warm, inviting fireplace and live piano music.

The new casino will also feature the largest casino buffet in Oklahoma. With seating for 400 guests, The Visions Buffet will offer a wide array of food options with an international flavor and will also feature a Thursday night seafood buffet.

MNN/*Starla Bush*

Pictured above is the River Spirit Casino in Tulsa, which will be opening its doors at the grand-opening on Tues., March 31 to the general public. The opening of the casino has been a much anticipated event for tribal and gaming officials as well as for the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

"Not only will The Visions Buffet offer traditional American cuisine, but it will also offer guests Italian, Asian and other international options. It will be the only one of its kind in Oklahoma," said Cross.

The Scoreboard Sports Bar will allow guests to enjoy drinks, snacks and of course plenty of plasma and LCD TVs to watch their favorite teams.

Cross said they have hired some of the top chefs in the country to prepare and oversee all of the new casino's dining venues.

"Whether one of guests is interested in a quick sandwich or salad from Rain Bay Café or an upscale dining experience at Elements Steakhouse and Grille, all of our food will be first class," said Cross.

One of the more exciting features of River Spirit Casino will be the Mystic River Lounge, which is located by the casino's main stage.

"Mystic River Lounge is uniquely designed and will feature a large stage and the newest technology in lighting and sound," said Cross. "We will be bringing in national and local acts. It will be the perfect place for guests to enjoy a drink and listen to free live entertainment."

"We have done everything right and our guests will notice it the minute they enter the facility," said Cross. "There's a lot to be done before we open on March 31, but we truly believe our guests will be blown away by River Spirit Casino."

For more information on the River Spirit Casino, please visit the official web site at www.creeknationcasino.com.

Home loans at historically low rates for Native American buyers

by Debbie Cooper
Citizens Security Bank & Trust

TULSA — Local lender, Citizens Security Bank and Trust is an active HUD Approved Section 184 Lender. Current low interest rates make it even more attractive to use this program which is designed to facilitate homeownership in Native American communities.

With the Section 184 financing ,borrowers can get into a home with a low down payment, no mortgage insurance and flexible underwriting.

For the potential home buyer, Section 184 is a great product, thanks to the low down payment requirement of 2.25 percent for loans over $50,000. If the loan is under $50,000 the down payment amount is 1.25 percent. Also, home buyers have to pay the mortgage insurance premium each month. Instead, a one-time, 1 percent loan guarantee fee can be added to the final loan amount.

A current home owner may want to use the loan program to pay off an existing loan which has monthly mortgage insurance. The refinance alone could lower their payment by the removal of mortgage insurance premium in the monthly payment. Cash out refinances are allowed up to 85 percent of appraised property (LTV).

To use this loan program applicants must be American Indian or Alaska Native who are members of a federally recognized tribe. Presentation of a CDIB card is required.

Eligibility is also limited to single-family housing, Section 184 cannot be used for commercial properties or Adjustable Rate Mortgages (ARMs).

For additional information on this or any other real estate financing program, please contact the mortgage professionals at Citizens Security Bank and Trust at (918) 293-1700 or (918) 683-2600.

Wills and estate planning project for Indian trust beneficiaries launches premier session

by Debby Pafel
United States Department of the Interior

TULSA — Indian trust beneficiaries from any tribe will have the opportunity to receive assistance preparing their wills, inclusive of trust and non-trust assets. The Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians (OST) announces that the Oklahoma City University (OCU) Law School Clinical Program, the Oklahoma Bar Foundation, and the Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes will offer this program.

"Over the years, I have heard tribal members express the need for help with the preparation of wills," said Henry Ware, Fiduciary Trust Officer (FTO) at OST's Concho Field Office and a legal services lawyer for many years. "I encourage beneficiaries to use the services provided under this program to do their wills but also to contemplate gift deeds and other estate planning options."

OCU law school interns specializing in trust law will provide the service. Their efforts will be overseen by Casey Ross-Petherak, an attorney and assistant director of the school's Native American Legal Resource Center.

There will be eight sessions the first year of this program, to be scheduled during the spring 2009 and fall 2009 semesters for April 16 and Sept. 19 at Cheyenne-Arapaho locations. Tentative dates for sessions at the Anadarko Agency are April 8, Sept. 9, and Oct. 21.

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Today's Trail of Tears:

• The legacy of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Part I

by Dan Cross
Keetoowah Cherokee Treatment Services

TULSA — Sara* sank into her easy chair and sobbed heaving sobs of burning tears; tears that seemed to bite her face in bitterness toward her. Her doctor said it was FAS, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. Sara went numb with disbelief when he said that it was incurable. Her precious baby, Sam, would be like this the rest of his life.

Sara recoiled into the past to find proof the diagnosis was wrong, as she recalled how young Sam was conceived. "I did have fun in those days," she thought with a slight smile breaking the weeping for a moment. She remembered the bar where she first met his father, a tall, dark granite sculpture of a man. Sure, it could have been the booze, but her blood seemed warm in her veins when she first laid eyes upon him.

Things progressed quickly between the two, and the fire waxed on as they partied together sometimes three to four nights a week for the next two months. Then, just as suddenly as he walked into her life in that bar, he was gone. But he left a memorial of their passion, soon evidenced by a missed period. Sara was pregnant.

Sam was slightly under-weight when born according to the OB GYN, "…but nothing to worry about. Let's just monitor his weight gain," she said. Sara noted that his ability to stand and learning to walk seemed to lag behind other kids at day care. She wondered then if he might be a little slow, but shrugged it off. As time passed she began to think something was wrong. Then she read about Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS).

Sara scrambled through her memories attempting to figure exactly when she conceived and how much alcohol she had consumed after that point in order to assuage the guilt. The facts are that medical science doesn't know how much it takes to produce Fetal Alcohol Effects (FAE), yet many doctors still tell pregnant women that a glass of wine want hurt them or their baby. "While a doctor can't say that a glass of wine will hurt the developing fetus, they also can't say that it won't," observes Candace Shelton, M.S. "The best thing," Shelton says, "is to not drink when having unprotected sex and through a pregnancy – or don't have sex when drinking."

Dan Cross, Keetoowah Cherokee Treatment Services, Tulsa, states, "The difference between today's Trail of Tears and the original one is that Native's are doing this one to themselves." The Trail of Tears reference Cross makes relates to the fact that Fetal Alcohol Syndrome is 33 times more likely to occur in a Native American baby than a Caucasian baby, 37 times more than Hispanics, and five times more likely than a black baby. Cross notes, "FAS is totally preventable."

Cross observed, "The pain stemming from injustices like the original Trail of Tears might be a huge contributing factor, but drinking and drugging while pregnant is self-inflicted. Many pregnancies occur during the course of drinking and drugging out of control." Cross concludes that addiction treatment may be the best way to prevent alcohol and drug affected babies.

Shirlene Ade, National Council Representative, Tukvpvtce District, challenged, "Our people must act to stop this path that we are on. We need to do this through treatment and prevention. This requires us to stand up as individuals and as a tribe to take responsibility and act." Ade and Keeper Johnson, National Council Representative, Okmulgee District, have been advocates of treatment and are looking at a new treatment facility in Wetumka.

Ade noted the recent grant of $230,000 that the MCN provided 12&12, Inc., a Tulsa treatment facility, to provide inpatient detoxification for Creek citizens. "Creeks are taking action," declared Ade, "It is time that we all do what is necessary to help ourselves, those we love, and those we know get the help they need."

This article is the first in a series of articles that examine the epidemic of Fetal Alcohol & Drug Syndrome among tribal people. The goal is to raise awareness and empower individuals and communities to address this devastating issue.

The following are Native American treatment centers in or near the Muscogee Creek Nation service area:

- MCN Behavioral Health Services - 1313 E. 20th Okmulgee (918) 758-1910
- Koweta Indian Health Facility (MCN) - 31870 East Hwy 51, Coweta
  (918)279-3200
- Indian Health Care Resource Center - 550 S. Peoria Avenue, Tulsa 918-588-1900
- Keetoowah Cherokee Treatment Services – 2727 E Admiral Pl, Tulsa, I-244 at Delaware, 918-835-3017

** The names and events described are fictional but reflect a profile of people affected by Fetal Alcohol & Drug Syndrome.*

National Diabetes Alert Day: Are you at risk?

by Sherry O'Mara
Okmulgee Indian Health Clinic

OKMULGEE — Almost 21 million people in the United States have diabetes, or 7 percent of the population! In Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System's patient population, 11.7 percent have diabetes. In MCNHS patients over 40 years, 39 percent had diabetes in 2003.

Early detection of diabetes is known to reduce complication risks. While an estimated 14.6 million have been diagnosed, unfortunately, 6.2 million people (or nearly one-third) are unaware they have this disease.

Because diabetes is increasing by large numbers yearly, March 24, 2009 has been designated as Diabetes Alert Day by the American Diabetes Association. Participating Creek Nation health clinics will sponsor informational booths in the clinic waiting area. Stop by and pick up information about the effects of diabetes and how to control it. Diabetes program staff will be available to answer questions and hand out brochures with valuable information. If you are unable to reach one of these booths, please take the diabetes risk test printed here.

Are you at Risk? Take this test. Know your score. Find out if you are at risk for having diabetes now. Write in the points next to each statement that is true for you. If a statement is not true, put a zero. Then add your total score. Remember, one-third of the people who have diabetes don't know it. The earlier diabetes is detected, the easier it is to control.

Diabetes Risk Test

1. I am a woman who has had a baby weighing more than 9 pounds at birth.
Yes 1___
2. I have a sister or brother with diabetes.
Yes 1___
3. I have a parent with diabetes.
Yes 1___
4. My weight is equal to or above that listed on the chart to the right.
Yes 5___
5. I am between 45 and 65 years of age and get little or no exercise.
Yes 5___
6. I am 65 years old or older
Yes 9___
TOTAL ____________

If you totaled 3-9 points—

You are probably at low risk for having diabetes now. But don't just forget about it, especially if you are American Indian. You may be at higher risk in the future.

Scoring 10 or more points—

You are at greater risk for having diabetes. Only your health care provider can determine if you have diabetes. At your next office visit find out for sure.

At Risk Weight Chart

Height	Weight
4'11"	133
5'0"	138
5'1"	143
5'2"	147
5'3"	152
5'4"	157
5'5"	162
5'6"	167
5'7"	172
5'8"	177
5'9"	182
5'10"	188
5'11"	193
6'0"	199
6'1"	204
6'2"	210
6'3"	216
6'4"	221

HEALTHNOTES

Smile for Dental Assistant Recognition Week!

by Jamie Campbell, DDS
Okmulgee Indian Health Center

OKMULGEE — March 1-7, 2009 has been designated by the American Dental Assistants Association and the American Dental Association as Dental Assistants Recognition Week. One week each year is set aside to honor the hard work and dedication of dental assistants.

Dental Assistants are an integral part of the dental team. The most observable duty of dental assistants is chair side assisting, but they have more responsibilities than just directly assisting the dentist. They set up instruments and dental materials for each procedure. After the procedure, they disinfect the unit and sterilize the instruments which helps to maintain a safe environment for the patients and staff. They help with patient education by giving basic oral hygiene instructions or post operative instructions. Most importantly to many people, dental assistants offer empathy and encouragement during difficult or stressful dental appointments.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation dental clinics employ a total of eighteen dental assistants. Of those eighteen, eleven are Creek citizens. The dentists and staff of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation dental clinics want to thank our dental assistants for the support they offer to us and to our patients.

Pictured above are the dental assistants from Sapulpa Clinic (left ro right): Trina Watashe, Alicia Lowe and not pictured are Jackie Buckley and Renee' Leslie.

Pictured above are the dental assistants from Eufaula Clinic (left to right): Dara Wilbourn and Freda Warren.

Pictured above are the dental assistants from Okmulgee (left to right, top row): Kristi Erby, Melissa Williams, Traci Campbell; (bottom row left to right): Alison Scott, Judy Proctor, and Janet Cargil.

Pictured above are the dental assistants from Koweta Clinic (left to right) standing: Michelle Glenn, Mindy Blair, Cindy Keeling; sitting: Joni Cantrell, Brittany LeMaster, Rachel Garvin (Creek); Not pictured: Jackie Grayson (Creek) Devonna Rodriquez.

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Quapaw Counseling Services
Oklahoma City
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qcs-okc.com
Miami
918-542-1786
quapawcounselingservices.com

Native Youth Summit and Rock and Jam Day set for March 25

by Susan Arkeketa
Indian Youth and Family Alliance

NORMAN — Indian youth activities and demonstrations are planned for the Indian Youth and Family Summit scheduled for March 25 and 26, 2009 at the OCCE Forum on the University of Oklahoma campus.

On March 25, 2009 the whole day will be devoted to youth empowerment through workshops and speakers focused on youth and family issues. Youth councils, counselors, parents, program administrators, educators, and students are encouraged to present workshops or information on their own programs that empower youth and families.

The Summit is hosted by the Indian Youth and Family Alliance and the University of Oklahoma Native American Studies Department. The Indian Youth and Family Alliance is composed of individuals and organizations who work to promote and support Native youth and families in healthy peer, family, community and tribal relations.

Summit is hosted by the University of Oklahoma Native American Studies Department and the Indian Youth and Family Alliance. The Indian Youth and Family Alliance is composed of individuals and organizations who want to make a difference in American Indian communities.

Planning committee members include: Susan Arkeketa, Jerry Bread, Veronica Pipestem, Cherrah Quiett and Dana Tiger.

Anyone who wants to volunteer with the Summit is more than welcome and if you are interested in joining the planning committee or want to present a workshop, please e-mail Susan Arkeketa for workshop information at sarkeketa@cs.com.

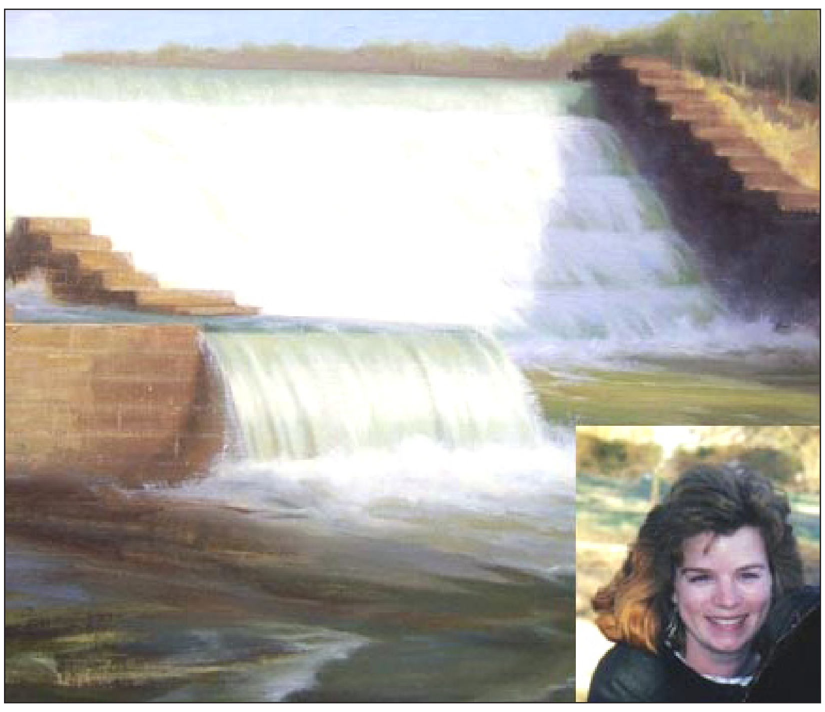
Creek Council House Museum hosts "Okmulgee" art exhibit through April 30

Media Release
Creek Council House

OKMULGEE — The Creek Council House Museum is proud to present *Our Town: Our Land, Our People,* an exhibit conceptualized and created by Okmulgee artist Anne Spoon. This exhibit features 27 original oil paintings that explore and celebrate the people and places of our town, Okmulgee.

Her passion is evident in every brush stroke. Whether it is a landscape or portrait people are drawn into her work and become a part of her vision.

Anne says, "I love to paint, anyone who knows me can testify, I am passionate about it. For me painting is a spiritual, meditative and emotional experience. I love the creamy feel of mixing oil paint on the palette, the beautiful color combinations, and all of the possibilities of a blank canvas. It is really the only thing I have ever wanted to do."



Photograph courtesy of Creek Council House Museum

Pictured above is a painting of an iconic area near Okmulgee Lake done by artist Anne Spoon (right corner) whose work will be featured at the Creek Council House Museum in April.

David Anderson, Executive Director of the Creek Council House Museum stated, "This is one of the most exciting exhibits that the museum has ever brought to Okmulgee. Anne has worked eighteen months on this project and she has captured the heart and soul of our community." He further stated "We are very honored that Anne has donated her portrait of original allottee Martha Berryhill to the museum."

The exhibit will be open to the public from now until April 30 during museum hours, Tuesday – Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The museum is open free to the public.

The museum is appreciative that this exhibit is sponsored in part by the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts. For more information please contact the Creek Council House Museum at (918) 756-2324.

Social Services offers assistance through March

by Julie Ziriax
MCN Social Services Manager

OKMULGEE —The Social Services Department continues to offer the Tribal Energy program for heating assistance. We will continue to take applications through March 31, 2009, or until the funds are exhausted.

Tribal Energy is available for elders (55 and older) or those receiving disability benefits through the Social Security Administration.

To apply for services, please choose one of the following options:

Applicants may choose to apply:

1) IN PERSON - No appointment is necessary and clients will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis. Office hours are 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. We are now located at 2971 N. Wood Drive, just north of Housing.

2) BY MAIL – Please mail all documents to: MCN Social Services, Attn: LIHEAP or Tribal Energy, PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

3) BY FAX – Please fax all documents to 918-759-9988 and include a cover sheet addressed to LIHEAP or Tribal Energy.

4) IN YOUR COMMUNITY – Please bring all your documents to the field site. A Social Services Caseworker is available every month in chartered communities between 9:30 and 11a.m., on specified days (see field schedule below for specific days).

Those who wish to apply should provide:

1) Tribal cards and Social Security cards for everyone in the household

2) Gas bill OR Propane vendor OR Wood vendor (Electric bill only if you are total electric. You may be asked to verify this.)

3) Copies of all income sources

4) Phone number (in case we need to contact you)

5) Authorization for Social Services to sign the application (if mailing or faxing)

6) Non-Duplication statement: Statement detailing any assistance received in the past 12 months from any federal, state, tribe, community, and/or church agency or the like with utilities, and/or deposits.

7) Additional documentation may be required

Applicants should keep paying their bill until they receive an approval letter. Please allow at least 45 days for processing.

We are currently out of LIHEAP funds but will resume applications in the summer for electric. Please contact Social Services at (918) 759-2334 if you need additional information. The toll-free number is 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7995.

MCN Social Services and Food Distribution Field Schedule

Coweta	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	2nd Tuesday of the Month
Glenpool	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	2nd Wednesday of the Month
Bristow	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	2nd Thursday of the Month
Eufaula	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	3rd Tuesday of the Month
Sapulpa	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	3rd Wednesday of the Month
Checotah	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	3rd Thursday of the Month
Weleetka	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	4th Tuesday of the Month
Okemah	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	4th Wednesday of the Month
Holdenville	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	4th Thursday of the Month

VASO seeks assistance with KIA project

by Josh Slane
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — The Veterans Affairs Services Office is in the process of creating a memorial to all of the Muscogee soldiers who have been Killed In Action. If you know of someone who was Killed In Action, please submit their name, verification of citizenship, Killed In Action verification, birth date, service branch, and Killed In Action date to the veteran affairs office.

Also, the Veterans Affairs office is currently looking for birthdays and KIA dates for the following soldiers: Perryman, Washington L; Berryhill, Charlie; Frank, Alfred N.; Hardridge, Alex; Knight, Ramsey; McIntosh, Nathaniel; Sarty, William W.; Sulphur, James; Watashe, Johnnie; Wesley, Anderson C.; Tarpalechee, Yarme; Cheek, Ben; and Moore, Kelly R. If you know the birthday or KIA dates for any of these soldiers, please contact Shawn Taryole at (918) 732-7745 or e-mail him at staryole@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Partnership Board gearing up for 2009 Spring Celebration

Media Release
MCN Partnership Board

OKMULGEE — The MCN Community Partnership Board is planning to host the 7th Annual Spring Celebration on March 20th, 2009 at the complex.

This is a one-day event to bring youth and families together for fellowship and to provide an opportunity for all to learn of the services available through the tribe. This event has about 600 visitors each year.

This year, the MCN Community Partnership Board is in need of volunteers. There will be different activities for all age groups: from games, to inflatables to basketball tournaments. If you would be interested in helping out with this fun-filled activity you can contact Janice Hanun or Neenah Emarthle at (918) 732-7968.

Creek Nation CASA announces independent study training for volunteers

Media Release
Court Appointed Special Advocates

OKMULGEE — The Creek Nation CASA program will hold tribal specific volunteer training utilizing the new Independent Study Edition.

The new program allows volunteers to train from home with weekly phone visits from the CASA supervisor to answer any questions that may arise.

The Court Appointed Special Advocate Association trains community volunteers to speak up for tribal children that are in the court system as a result of abuse and/or neglect. Tribal court volunteers are assigned one child or sibling group. The volunteers work with counselors, social workers and CASA staff to make sure the children's needs are being met.

Creek Nation CASA operates in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court and currently has 17 tribal court volunteers advocating for 33 children.

"CASA volunteers give of themselves to ensure that tribal children are placed in safe, permanent and loving homes," stated CASA Program Manager Kim Deer.

It doesn't take any special qualification to be a CASA volunteer; the only requirement is to complete CASA training. CASA training topics include child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, drugs, child development, ICWA laws and many other interesting topics. It is a wonderful opportunity to get involved and make an impact on the community.

For more information about the Creek Nation CASA Program, please call Kim Deer at (918) 756-2549 or by e-mail at casaokm5@sbcglobal.net.

Hanna Indian Community now hiring farmers for summer season

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

HANNA — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Research and Development will host a job fair on Fri., March 27, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Hanna Indian Community Center for those interested in working for the Hanna Farm Project's Spring/Summer 2009 season.

Creek and Native American preference will be given and work will focus on various phases of planting, harvesting, etc., at the farm.

Applicants should bring Creek citizen card and/or CDIB card and an additional form of ID. Employees will be hired for contract labor once the contracts are approved by Chief Ellis. Fore more information, contact Steve Landsberry at (918) 732-7962.

Deadline for Summer Youth applications set for March 27

Media Release
MCN Employment and Training

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Summer Youth Employment Program is currently underway. The program will be accepting applications for employment over the telephone only, from 9 a.m - 5 p.m., Mon., through Fri.

Applicants must be a member of any federally recognized tribe, be between the ages of 16 and 21 and live within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The last day to call and apply will be Fri., March 27 by 5 p.m. The deadline to submit an application to the Summer Youth Office will be Fri., April 3, 2009.

To apply, please call (800) 482 - 1979 exts. 7775 or 7776, or call the program directly at (918) 732 - 7775 or (918) 732 - 7776.

Free showing of Indian boarding school documentary

by Jackson Barnett
MCN Senior Services

OKMULGEE — Senior Services announces a special showing of the award-winning documentary by Rich Heape Films, "Our Spirits don't speak English, Indian Boarding School."

The showing will be Thurs. March 12, at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center located at 2701 N. Miami. Senior Services will provide pizza and soft drinks and the movie will start at 7 p.m. For more information contact Jackson Barnett at (918) 732 - 7723.

Native scholarship opportunities

American Indian Journalism Institute

The Freedom Forum is accepting applications until March 1 for the 9th American Indian Journalism Institute summer session, the premier journalism training, scholarship and internship program for Native American college students, June 5-19, 2009.

Students attend AIJI for free and receive other financial assistance. Applications are welcome from any Native American college student preparing to become a journalist. In its first eight years, about 165 students completed the program. Instructions and application forms are available at FreedomForum.org or by emailing a request to jharris@freedomforum.org.

AIJI students will be eligible for college credit by taking a multimedia journalism course taught at the Freedom Forum's Al Neuharth Media Center, on the University of South Dakota's Vermillion campus.

AIJI graduates compete to be hired for six-week paid internships as reporters, copy editors, photographers and multimedia journalists in daily newsrooms and with The Associated Press beginning about July 1.

The Freedom Forum administers and funds AIJI, including tuition, fees, books, room and board. To be eligible for AIJI, Native students must have completed at least one year of college. Applications for the program will be accepted from new participants and from returning AIJI students who want more training.

Program graduates will earn three hours of college credit from the University of South Dakota that students may transfer to their current school.

Students must be able to provide their own transportation to and from Vermillion, S.D., and must attend the full program beginning Friday, June 5, and ending Friday afternoon, June 19. Each student will have a single room in a dormitory. Meals will be provided on campus. AIJI forbids the use of alcohol, other intoxicants and illegal drugs at any time during the program. Violators will be dismissed from the institute.

The American Indian Journalism Institute is part of the Freedom Forum Diversity Institute's commitment to increase employment diversity in daily newsrooms.

"Having even one Native American working in a newsroom makes the organization more aware of American Indians in its community, and more sensitive and intelligent in reporting stories about them," Marsh said. "American Indians are by far the most underrepresented people of color in the news media, and this often results in stereotypical and erroneous coverage of Indian issues and Indian people."

AIJI also offers a semester-long Visiting Scholars Program at the University of South Dakota every fall and spring. Students are mentored by a journalist in residence and take a full load of college courses in journalism and related subjects. The program was created for students from schools that don't offer journalism courses. Fellowships are available to visiting scholars to cover the cost of tuition, fees, room and board.

The Freedom Forum, based in Washington, D.C., is a nonpartisan foundation dedicated to free press, free speech and free spirit for all people. The foundation focuses on three priorities: the Newseum, an interactive museum of news in Washington, D.C.; the First Amendment and newsroom diversity.

LEAD and the Native American Finance Officers Association Summer Business Institute

Do you want to learn about business as it is relevant to Tribes? Do you want to spend your summer at one of the top universities in the country?

For more than 28 years, the LEAD Program has provided business education to more than 7,500 minority high school students. In summer 2009, LEAD and the Native American Finance Officers Association (NAFOA) are partnering to provide a unique program for Native American and Alaska Native students.

Native American and Alaska Native high school juniors will participate in a four week program to learn about business and finance as it is relevant to Native communities. Tribal leaders and Native people working in business and finance will introduce students to exciting career opportunities. Students will live on a university campus, participate in interactive classes and corporate site visits conducted by business school professors and corporate executives.

Students will also take classes in marketing, accounting, finance and economics. The curriculum also includes a day focused on college admissions. Students will participate in business and stock market competitions. On weekends, students will engage in a variety of extracurricular activities from theme park trips to sporting events.

Application deadline for Native students extended to March 15, 2009. It is to your benefit to submit your application as soon as possible before the deadline, as you will have a higher likelihood of being accepted into the program. Please do not let cost deter you from applying. Additional funding is available for Native American students.

To apply online visit: www.leadprogram.org. Click on "LEAD Business." Native American and Alaska Native students in currently in their junior year of high school should apply.

For more information contact: Tashina Etter, Associate Director of Education and Programs, Native American Finance Officers Association by e-mail at: Tashina@nafoa.org or by phone at (303) 503-8772.

Society of American Indian Government Employees

The Society of American Indian Government Employees (SAIGE) is the only national Non-profit organization that advocates for American Indian and Alaska Native Government employees.

SAIGE will host their 6th annual training conference, "Many Nations, One Voice," June 1-5, 2009 in San Diego, Cali., at the Town and Country Hotel. As part of the Training Conference, SAIGE will also host the annual Native Youth Track.

This program is designed to provide Native American students an opportunity to learn about careers within the federal government, to participate in professional and personal development workshops and training, and to network with Native American professionals.

SAIGE encourages Native American youth to realize their potential to become leaders in their communities and schools, continue their education by obtaining a college degree, and ultimately, to seek a career in the government sector in one of the multitude of civil service professions.

SAIGE is offering a limited number of scholarships for Native students to attend the 2009 conference in San Diego, which will include conference fee, airfare, hotel accommodations and per diem for meals.

The Youth Track is open to Native Students between the ages of 18 and 25 who can demonstrate they are currently enrolled in good standing at an accredited high school, college or university. Students must be interested in gaining a professional degree and in the possibility of pursing a career with the federal government. SAIGE invites American Indian/Alaska Native students to submit their application form, letter of reference, proof of school enrollment, and completed emergency medical information form for consideration to attend the conference. A short essay about their interest in government careers and information about themselves is also required. Completed application packets must be postmarked or electronic copies sent no later then April 1, 2009. To obtain a complete application visit our website at: www.saige.org under Youth Track. For more information, contact:JoAnn Brant, Youth Track Coordinator at (202) 564-0375 or by e-mail at Brant.joann@epa.gov.

Education Spotlight: Okemah Indian Community - a success story

by Thomas Givens
Okemah Indian Comunity

Photo courtesy of Mike Dunson

The OIC recently donated $1300.00 for equipment for the 2009 Okemah Panther High School Baseball Team. Accepting the check is the Head Baseball Coach David Dunlap. Presenting for the OIC is chariman Mike Dunson and C.E.O. Famous Marshal.

OKEMAH — The Okemah Indian Community (OIC) finds success within its Youth and Education Departments. "May be on the cutting edge of a trend that promotes a partnership between school districts and local Native American students" stated Mr. Tom Condict, Okemah Public School Superintendent.

Beginning with the 2008 – 2009 school year, the Okemah Indian Community and the Okemah Public School district developed a collaborative program to promote and support the overall academic performance of Native American students. OIC and the Okemah Public School district hired Mrs. Sandra Lambert as the Director of Native American Education/School and Community Liaison to oversee this newly developed program.

Mrs. Lambert sees students daily for academic intervention, grade reviews, and behavior concerns. Mrs. Lambert supervises the tutoring program, makes regular teacher contacts, parent contacts, and classroom visits.

The Okemah Indian Community funds a tutoring program before and after school at the high school. OIC also funds an after school tutoring program at the middle school. OIC pays six (6) certified teachers for these programs. The tutoring programs began in mid-August and have served approximately thirty-five (35) high school students and thirty-eight (38) middle school students. The grades of these students have improved and one hundred eleven (111) Native American students were named to the Principal's and Superintendent's honor rolls. This accomplishment marks approximately 33percent of the enrolled Creek students.

Okemah Public Schools Superintendent, Mr. Tom Condict said, "This has been a very successful partnership between the Okemah Indian Community and the School District. I believe our Native American students are benefiting from this program. We may be on the cutting edge of a trend that promotes a partnership between school districts and local Native American students."

Photo courtesy of Mike Dunson

The Okemah Indian Community recently received $500 for the Okemah Regional Tournament Program. Accepting the check is Athletic Director/Principal Tom Howell. Presenting for OIC is Chairman Mike Dunson and CEO Famous Marshall

In direct correlation with the Education Department is the Youth Department. The Youth Department is supervised by Ms. Sunnie Marshall, Youth Coordinator. The Youth Department goes hand in hand with the Education Department with the establishment of its Youth Council. The Okemah Indian Community Youth Council is a model government that parallels with the Muscogee (Creek) National Council and teaches young Creek citizens parliamentary procedures. The Youth Council establishes goals and objectives and makes budgetary decisions to plan activities and events. The young people that have actively participated in the Youth Council have gone on to attend college and universities and become outstanding citizens.

One notable accomplishment of the Youth Council is the establishment of the Adopt-A-Highway Program. An Oklahoma Department of Highway representative said they believed the Okemah Indian Youth Council was the only youth organization in the State that has adopted a highway.

The Youth Council slogan is "Our Train is Going Somewhere," it never backs up and never stops. It means you meet their pace.

The Youth Department contributes and provides for many Community youth to participate in various athletic camps and activities. The Youth annually participate in the Native Vision Sports and Leadership Camp and in order for the Youth to participate in school sports activities they must have passing grades.

Therefore, both departments feel they have indirectly contributed to the success of the Okemah High School boys' basketball team which is comprised of 33 percent Native Americans and ranked #1 in the State in Class 3A.

OIC is comprised of four (4) departments which offer several programs and services. The Executive Office, under the leadership of the OIC Board of Directors, manages all departments, programs, and services, including a Smoke Shop enterprise. The Executive Office is staffed by the CEO Famous Marshall, SEO Thomas Givens, and AO Vicky McGee.

The OIC departments include: Education Services, Youth Services, Social Services, and Senior & Disabled Citizens Services.

The OIC Executive Office leadership saw a definite need to assist its membership in many economic and social areas because of the current state of the national economy. The departments in which it is felt have excellet the Education and Youth.

Other OIC Education Department programs include:

The Education Incentive Award Program, Youth Music Instrument Loan Program, Scholarship Program, Summer School Assistance, Band Music Instructions and Student Graduation Assistant.

The Education Incentive Award Program honors eligible students for academic excellence and achievement. At the end of the 2008 – 2009 first semester, there were seventy-nine (79) students that qualified for this award.

The Youth Music Instrument Loan Program assists Creek students that desire to play in the school band but are unable to afford to purchase or rent musical instruments. For School Year 2008 – 2009, there are eight (8) students currently on this program and playing in the high school band.

The OIC Scholarship program is awarded to graduating high school seniors for academic excellence and that plan to attend an institution of higher education. This year, two (2) scholarship awards were presented to two students attending college.

A Summer School Assistance program was established in case a high school student was deficient in an academic area necessary to graduate. Thus far, none has applied.

Plans are formulating to provide musical instrument instructions to teenage youth that may be interested in playing instruments i.e., guitar, drums, and keyboard.

OIC has established a graduation assistance program for high school graduating seniors that are Creek enrolled and reside within OIC boundaries. The graduation assistance program helps to defray expenses that many cannot afford, i.e. caps & gowns, announcements and pictures. This year there are fourteen (14) graduating seniors attending both Okemah and Mason High Schools.

The Okemah Indian Community Education Department sponsored a financial aid workshop for Native American juniors and seniors with approximately thirty-five (35) parents and students in attendance. It has also provided two hundred forty-four (244) students with school supplies.

The OIC Education Department plans to have a high school senior banquet to show its appreciation for a job well done. Future plans for the Department to possibly include Creek Language classes in the Okemah Public School system.

Air traffic control school now available through Tulsa Community College

Media Release
MCN Employment & Training

OKMULGEE — A two-year air traffic control school program will be offered through Tulsa Community College.

Classes will begin June 2009 and again in Fall 2009. Applicants must be ages 27 years and younger, preferrably.

Any Creek citizen or Native American in the Nation's service area that is accepted into the program may contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Employment and Training Program for information regarding assistance with this program.

For more information on the air traffic school, inquiries may be directed to Ben Bancroft at (918) 828-4041 ext. 4041.

For more information on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Employment and Training Program, please contact Melody McPerryman at (918) 732 - 7779.

CMN's Harjo accepts leadership award

SPOTLIGHT - B5

Stars come out for the Madness in March

SPORTS - B7

FEATURES

SECTION B • www.themuscogeecreeknation.com • March 2009

Creek Festival takes shape

• Market will feature Mvskoke-gown produce

MNN/*Ruth Bible*

In 2008, the Creek Festival featured home-grown potatoes and other produce, which were very popular. This year, the planning committee decided to make it an annual feature of the festival attractions.

ADDING SOME SPICE

The 2009 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will include a Farmers Market.

Interested parties may sell their home-grown produce all days of the festival to contact the office of Tourism & Recreation to secure a space at no cost. All chartered Creek communities are encouraged to inform farmers in their areas and secure a space for them.

The 35th Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will be held June 18-21, 2009. For more information, contact Brian On-The-Hill at Tourism & Recreation at (918) 732-7993.

T&R/*Brian On-The-Hill*

Wetumka vision becoming reality

•Satellite offices established in rural community

by Thompson Gouge
Public Relations Representative

WETUMKA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is making progress in the southern part of Creek Nation Territory.

As promised by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, the idea of reaching citizens in the southern portion of the tribe is becoming a reality. A satellite office for tribal services is being established in the old hospital in Wetumka, Okla.

Due to the increase of fuel costs and the economy, this tribal service office will bring less stress to all Creek citizens living in that area. Offices housed at Wetumka will include Housing Division, Social Services, Human Development, National Council and the Lighthorse Police Department. "Eventually we would like to see other departments bring their services to this area as well," said Thomasene Osborn, Development Specialist for the Creek Nation Housing Authority. The remodeling of this facility was performed by the Force Accounts crew with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation housing and the Structural Insulated Panel Plant Crew. "A satellite office has always been a dream of mine," states Mrs. Osborn.

When Bobby Leftwich, was hired to work in the SIP plant, he was asked how it felt to have job in his home town, "There are not that many jobs here and going out of town would be hard if you didn't have a vehicle and if you were to get on a pipeline crew, it may take you out of state by weeks or months at a time."

Photo courtesy of Thompson Gouge

Pictured above is the Wetumka Structural Insulated Panel Crew and Wetumka Satellite Office Crew. (Front L-R): Asi Yahola and Thomasene Osborn, (Back L-R) Robert Long, Bobby Leftwich, Spencer Underwood, Jeremiah Hobiah and Albert Poole. Not pictured are Jerry Deere and Lumber Proctor.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division also has plans to build a 13,000 square foot., Structural Insulated Panel (SIP) plant on east Highway 9 in Wetumka. The plant will be located on tribally-owned land and will exclusively manufacture SIPS, which will be used to construct new homes for the Housing Division Home Ownership programs.

On-site crews will assemble the homes; however, building services such as electricity, plumbing and foundation will be contracted out, providing the area with opportunity for jobs and economic growth. While waiting on the structures and the development of the site, the SIP crew was able to help remodel the Wetumka Service offices.

Last call for Mvskoke artists to participate

by Brian On-The-Hill
MCN Tourism and Recreation

OKMULGEE — March 30 will be the last day to submit booth applications for arts and crafts to the Tourism and Recreation Department.

If you or someone you know is an artist or craftsman, please consider purchasing a 15'x20' booth space at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival in June 2009. All registered Creek citizens may rent a 15'x20' booth space for $60, upon proof of citizenship. All other Native Americans (non-Creek citizens) will be charged $80 (must present valid CDIB card), Non-Natives will pay $125 and a $150 fee will be charged for commercial vendors. For more information, contact Brian On-The-Hill at (918) 732-7993.

Mvskoke Women's Leadership Initiative forming

by Cherrah Quiett
MCN National Council Representative

OKMULGEE — Attention ALL Mvskoke Women! Do you want to share your knowledge or learn from other great women leaders?

Are you ready to be a part of getting back to our maternal roots? If yes to any of these questions, please join us in the first brainstorming meeting of the Mvskoke Women's Leadership Initiative.

The meeting will be held Sat., March 14 from 2-4 p.m., at the Mound Building, in the National Council Chambers. All ages are welcome and light refreshments will be served.

For more information please contact Cherrah Quiett at (918) 520-9161 or at tulsacreek@aol.com.

The first brainstorming session of the Mvskoke Women's Leadership Initiative will be March 14.

- Cherrah Quiett
MCN National Council

MFSI hosts "Return to Your Roots" food symposium

Media Release
Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative

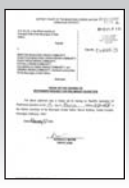
OKMULGEE — The MFSI will be hosting an educational event, the first annual "Return to Your Roots Food Sovereignty Symposium." The symposium is scheduled for March 20 and 21, 2009, at the Capital Complex Mound Bldg. The participants will be exposed to modern Muscogee culture as the expert presenters enlighten attendees with their knowledge.

An impressive group of experts in many aspects of the food system including the health benefits of traditional foods, Muscogee agriculture heritage, growing and cooking traditional foods and resources will be available from farmers in the area. Also scheduled are presentations from other tribes and several Muscogee Communities about their agricultural projects.

A traditional meal prepared by Muscogee citizens will be provided on Sat. For more information contact Ben Yahola or Vicky Karhu at (918) 756-5915 by e-mail: at info@mvskokefood.org., or visit www.mvskokefood.org.

HISTORY/CULTURE B2

Order setting hearing on Petitioners Request for Preliminary Injunction



RELIGION B3

Faith Based news and activities calendar for March and April

LIFESTYLES B4

Mekko Tyner

SPOTLIGHT B5

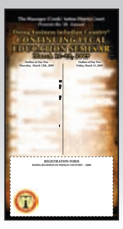
Muscogee (Creek) citizens at the Tulsa Indian Art Festival

OBITUARIES B6

Earl Sands

AD B8

Van Zandt Ad



HISTORY/CULTURE

Juried Art Competition to feature photography category

by Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

OKMULGEE — The 2009 Muscogee Nation Festival and the Creek Council House Museum are calling all Native American artists for the 2009 Juried Art Competition. The juried art competition show will be exhibited at the museum from June 16 – 20. This year there will be two categories of competition including Painting/Graphic Arts and Photography.

"It will be an exciting show this year. For the first time we will have a photography category. We have also increased the number of prizes and the amount of prize money that will be awarded with one talented artist receiving the $1,000 Best of Show Award," stated museum curator Ted Isham.

In addition to the art competition, Native American artists will be able to set up and sell their work on the museum lawn. There will be no charge for booth space but vendors must pre-register with the museum.

Entry packets are available now. For further information and to request a juried art competition packet or a vendor on the lawn packet, please contact the museum at (918)-756-2324.

Tulsa Public Library to feature Native storytelling March 7

Submitted by Teresa Runnels
American Indian Resource Center of Tulsa

TULSA—Tulsa Public Library will be hosting cultural afternoon on Sat., March 7 at the Central Library, Fourth Street and Denver Avenue from 11:15 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Mekko David Proctor from the Tallahassee Wykokaye Ceremonial Ground will make four calls in the Mvskoke language to announce to participants to begin getting ready for the festival.

Oral Tradition of Storytelling will be from 11:30 a.m.-12:10 p.m. At the Plaza Room, Second Floor, Alice Whitecloud, coordinator for All Nations Indian Youth will present tribal stories. Flute Music/Storytelling will be from 11:30 a.m.-12:10 p.m., at the tiled area, second floor. Choogie Kingfisher will present flute music and storytelling of traditional Cherokee myths and legends.

American Indian Storytelling will be held from 1 p.m.-1:40 p.m., at the tiled area, Second Floor. Through storytelling, Katie Roubidoux, a Tulsa Zoo docent, will help kids become more aware of the natural world.

For more information, contact Teresa Runnels at AIRC by phone (918) 596-7398, e-mail: trunnel@tulsalibrary.org or by visiting Tulsa Library's web site: http://www.tulsalibrary.org/airc.

Benefit Bingo

by Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

OKMULGEE — A Benefit Bingo will be held on Sat., March 7 at the Okmulgee Indian Community with food sale beginning at 11 a.m. Mini, regular and special bingo will begin at 1 p.m.

Proceeds will go toward the funeral and medical expenses for Wilbur "Chebon" Gouge and Wallace Deo. Donations will be accepted.

For more information, please contact Nancy Deere at (918) 756 - 4272 or at (918) 224 - 6954 after 5:30 p.m.

Communities

Continued from A1

1.00 FINDINGS:

1.01 Pursuant to the Constitution of the Nation, as recognized by the Supreme Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Office of the Principal Chief has authority to oversee the Executive Branch of the Nation, including but not limited to general oversight of the chartered communities and specifically: Bristow, Checotah, Duck Creek, Eufaula, Holdenville and Okemah Indian Communities as well as the Nation's real property.

1.02 Pursuant to Title 11, §§ 1-101 et seq. of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code Annotated, the Principal Chief is given authority over the chartered communities, pursuant to his inherent authority as head of the Executive Branch of the Nation, the Principal Chief has entered into a Facility Use Agreement with the Bristow, Checotah, Duck Creek, Eufaula, Holdenville and Okemah Muscogee Creek Indian Communities with regard to the conduct of gaming and related activities at the Nation's facility.

1.03 Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the: Bristow, Checotah, Duck Creek, Eufaula, Holdenville and Okemah Creek Indian Communities Facility Use Agreement, the term of said agreement will expire on February 28, 2009.

1.04 In that all citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation are entitled to participate in the benefits and revenues of the Nation, the Principal Chief believes that it is in the best interests of the citizens of the Nation that all Indian Gaming Communities facilities Use Agreement not be renewed in order that the revenues associated with the Nation's gaming facility located within the Indian Gaming Communities benefits all citizens of the Nation, including without limitation the members of the Indian Gaming Communities.

1.05 In accordance with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code Annotated, Title 11, § 4-302 and his general authority as head of the Executive Branch of the Nation, the Principal Chief retains the right of re-entry upon the expiration of the term of the Checotah Muscogee Creek Indian Community Facilities Use Agreement.

2.00 AUTHORITY/ACTION:

2.01 As of the Effective Date as defined in Section 3.01 below and for the benefit of all of the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Principal Chief hereby assumes general oversight authority over the Nation's real property within the Indian Gaming Communities, subject to the provisions of Section 2.02 below, and including without limitation the ability, as necessary to make appointments of the directors, officers, employees and agents of the Nation's gaming facility within the Indian Gaming Communities. Without limiting the foregoing, the Controller (1) is hereby authorized to take possession, maintain and manage all financial resources, funds assets, records, contracts, bank accounts, bank records and all other documents related to the gaming enterprise and (2) shall have signature authority over all gaming revenues, contracts and bank accounts related to the operation of the gaming enterprise; and (3) is hereby authorized to use gaming funds for any audits, including forensic audits, deemed necessary by the Controller.

2.01 All General Managers will be acting Interim General Managers of the gaming facility within the Indian Gaming Communities and shall be in actual control of the day-to-day operations of the gaming facility, including without limitation employment issues.

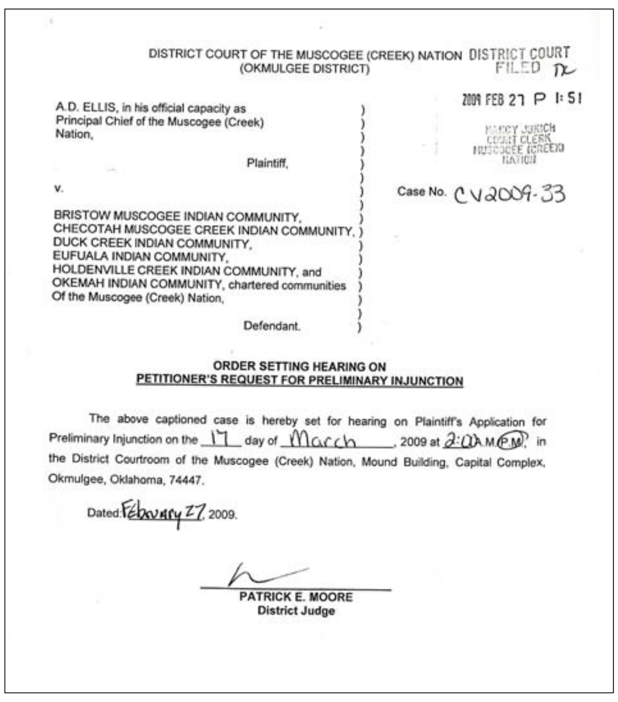
2.03 As of the Effective Date, the Board of the Indian Gaming Communities shall have no authority over any gaming enterprises, funds, financial resources, assets, record, contracts, bank accounts, bank records and any other documents of any kind relating to the operation of the gaming facilities.

2.04 The Principal Chief and/or his designee(s) shall have the authority take any and all actions the Principal Chief deems necessary and proper to carry out the terms and conditions of the foregoing and to ensure the continued effective operation of the Nation's gaming facility within the Indian Gaming Communities in the best interests of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

3.00 EFFECTIVE DATE:

3.01 This Executive Order shall become effective as of 12:00 a.m. (midnight), Sunday, March 1, 2009.

Legal Notices (con't on B6)



DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
(OKMULGEE DISTRICT)

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 FEB 27 P 1:51
NANCY JURICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

A.D. ELLIS, in his official capacity as Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation,
Plaintiff,

v.

Case No. CV2009-33

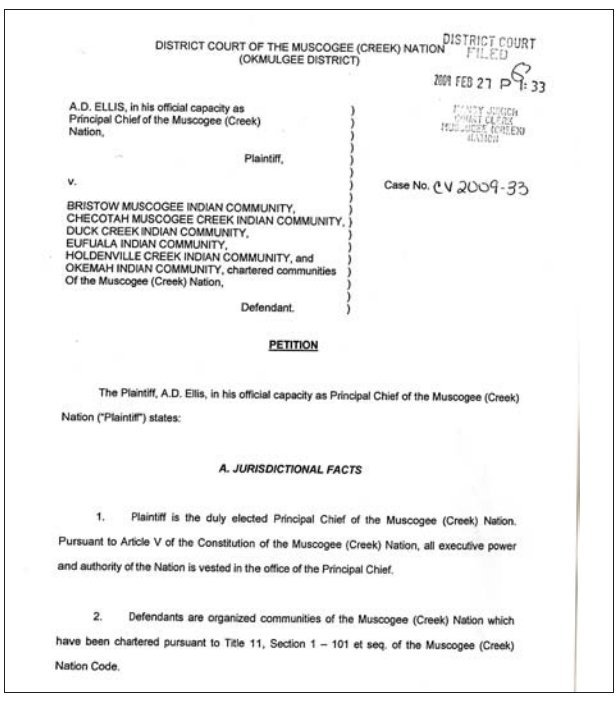
BRISTOW MUSCOGEE INDIAN COMMUNITY,
CHECOTAH MUSCOGEE CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY,
DUCK CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY,
EUFUALA INDIAN COMMUNITY,
HOLDENVILLE CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY, and
OKEMAH INDIAN COMMUNITY, chartered communities
Of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation,
Defendant.

ORDER SETTING HEARING ON
PETITIONER'S REQUEST FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

The above captioned case is hereby set for hearing on Plaintiff's Application for Preliminary Injunction on the 17 day of March, 2009 at 2:00 A.M. [✓ P.M.], in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Mound Building, Capital Complex, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, 74447.

Dated: February 27, 2009.

PATRICK E. MOORE
District Judge



DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
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HOLDENVILLE CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY, and
OKEMAH INDIAN COMMUNITY, chartered communities
Of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation,
Defendant.

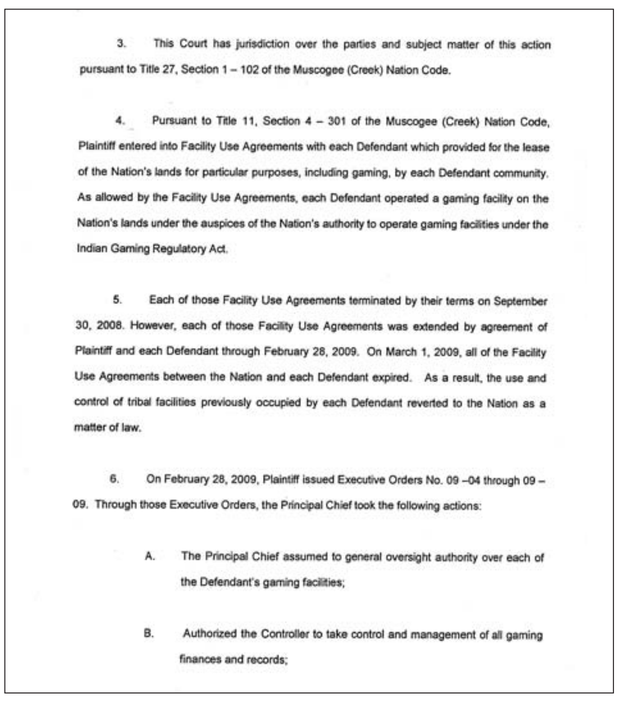
PETITION

The Plaintiff, A.D. Ellis, in his official capacity as Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation ("Plaintiff") states:

A. JURISDICTIONAL FACTS

1. Plaintiff is the duly elected Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, all executive power and authority of the Nation is vested in the office of the Principal Chief.

2. Defendants are organized communities of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation which have been chartered pursuant to Title 11, Section 1 – 101 et seq. of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code.



3. This Court has jurisdiction over the parties and subject matter of this action pursuant to Title 27, Section 1 – 102 of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code.

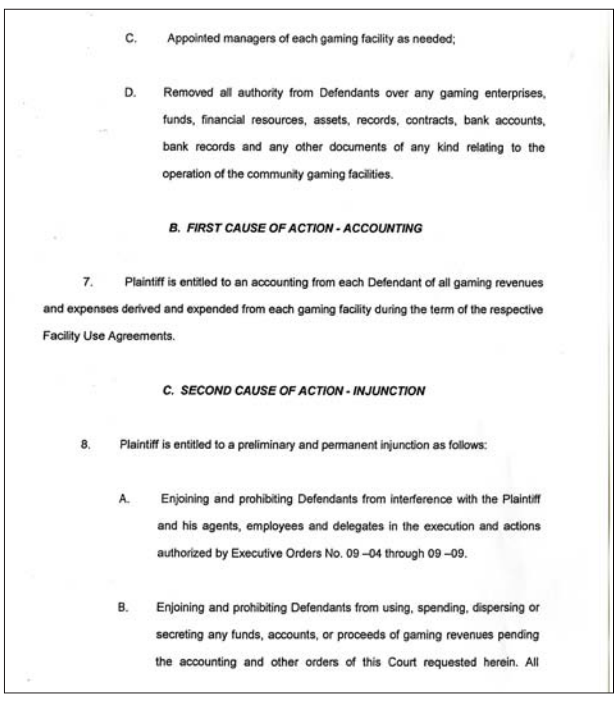
4. Pursuant to Title 11, Section 4 – 301 of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code, Plaintiff entered into Facility Use Agreements with each Defendant which provided for the lease of the Nation's lands for particular purposes, including gaming, by each Defendant community. As allowed by the Facility Use Agreements, each Defendant operated a gaming facility on the Nation's lands under the auspices of the Nation's authority to operate gaming facilities under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

5. Each of those Facility Use Agreements terminated by their terms on September 30, 2008. However, each of those Facility Use Agreements was extended by agreement of Plaintiff and each Defendant through February 28, 2009. On March 1, 2009, all of the Facility Use Agreements between the Nation and each Defendant expired. As a result, the use and control of tribal facilities previously occupied by each Defendant reverted to the Nation as a matter of law.

6. On February 28, 2009, Plaintiff issued Executive Orders No. 09 –04 through 09 – 09. Through those Executive Orders, the Principal Chief took the following actions:

A. The Principal Chief assumed to general oversight authority over each of the Defendant's gaming facilities;

B. Authorized the Controller to take control and management of all gaming finances and records;



C. Appointed managers of each gaming facility as needed;

D. Removed all authority from Defendants over any gaming enterprises, funds, financial resources, assets, records, contracts, bank accounts, bank records and any other documents of any kind relating to the operation of the community gaming facilities.

B. FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION - ACCOUNTING

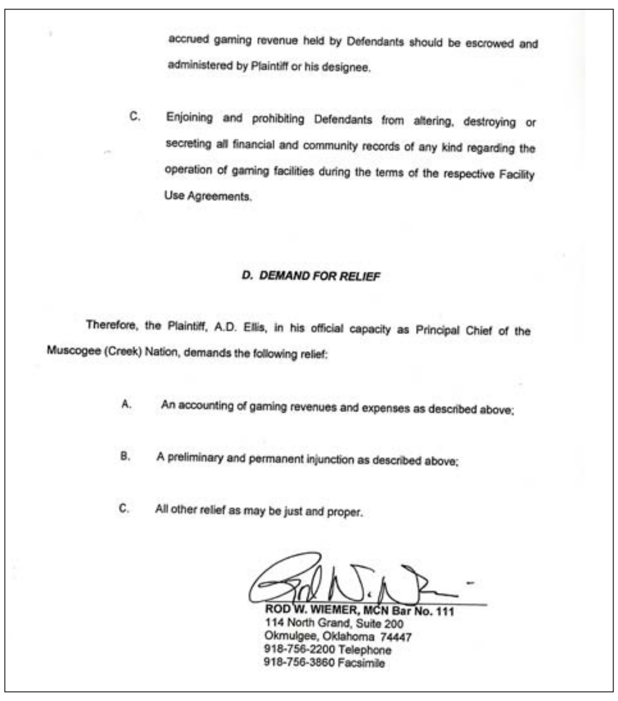
7. Plaintiff is entitled to an accounting from each Defendant of all gaming revenues and expenses derived and expended from each gaming facility during the term of the respective Facility Use Agreements.

C. SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION - INJUNCTION

8. Plaintiff is entitled to a preliminary and permanent injunction as follows:

A. Enjoining and prohibiting Defendants from interference with the Plaintiff and his agents, employees and delegates in the execution and actions authorized by Executive Orders No. 09 –04 through 09 –09.

B. Enjoining and prohibiting Defendants from using, spending, dispersing or secreting any funds, accounts, or proceeds of gaming revenues pending the accounting and other orders of this Court requested herein. All



accrued gaming revenue held by Defendants should be escrowed and administered by Plaintiff or his designee.

C. Enjoining and prohibiting Defendants from altering, destroying or secreting all financial and community records of any kind regarding the operation of gaming facilities during the terms of the respective Facility Use Agreements.

D. DEMAND FOR RELIEF

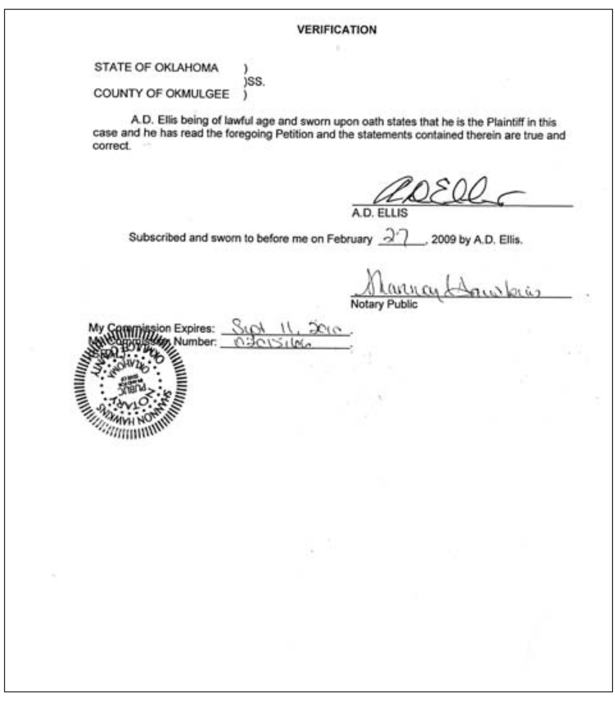
Therefore, the Plaintiff, A.D. Ellis, in his official capacity as Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, demands the following relief:

A. An accounting of gaming revenues and expenses as described above;

B. A preliminary and permanent injunction as described above;

C. All other relief as may be just and proper.

ROD W. WIEMER, MCN Bar No. 111
114 North Grand, Suite 200
Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447
918-756-2200 Telephone
918-756-3860 Facsimile



VERIFICATION

STATE OF OKLAHOMA)
)SS.
COUNTY OF OKMULGEE)

A.D. Ellis being of lawful age and sworn upon oath states that he is the Plaintiff in this case and he has read the foregoing Petition and the statements contained therein are true and correct.

A.D. ELLIS

Subscribed and sworn to before me on February 27, 2009 by A.D. Ellis.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: Sept. 11, 2010.
My Commission Number: [illegible].

SHANNON HAWKINS

June 18 - 21

Entries for the following must be submitted no later than Friday, May 29, 2009.

Men's Basketball 3 on 3 .... Sprint Williams 918-759-1219
Youth Basketball 3 on 3 .... Chad Smith 405-487-8864
Golf Tournament .... Celesta Johnson 800-299-9458
Horseshoes .... Liz Holata 918-732-7614
Parade .... Melinda Deerinwater 918-759-4172
Slow-Pitch Softball Tourn. .... George Roach 918-458-0577
Volleyball .... Billie Harjochee 918-732-7960

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Churches celebrate spring with wild onion dinners

By Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — Some of the most anticipated events of the spring include seeing the daffodils bloom, the grass turn a little greener and the breezes blowing a little warmer.

When March hits Oklahoma, however, many citizens only have eyes for wild onions. These traditional Creek delicacies are enjoyed in churches and communities throughout the boundaries of the Nation.

Dinners are scheduled throughout the months of March and April and usually feature other traditional must-have food items such as salt pork and grape dumplings.

Salt Creek United Methodist Church — March 7, 11- 3 p.m., $10.00 for adults, $5.00 for children. Dinner will be held at the Holdenville Indian Community Center and will be all-you-can-eat.

Big Cussetah Church — March 21, 11 a.m., to 3 p.m., $8.00 adult and $5.00 children (per plate). $8.00 will also be charged for carry-out orders.

Concharty Methodist Church — March 28, 11 a.m., to 3 p.m. Adults will be $8.00 and $5.00 children (per plate). The church is located at 19040 Garfield Road in Okmulgee. For more info call 918-366-8450.

Broken Arrow Indian United Methodist Church — March 28, from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. The church is located at 20854 E. 141st in Broken Arrow and will be serving onions, beans, corn, meat, frybread beverages and desserts.

Springfield Methodist Church — April 4, from 10:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Adults will be $8.00 and children 12 and under will be $4.00.

Directions are as follows: Exit I-40, Clearview Exit: Go North to stop sign, turn left traveling West one mile on Hwy. 62, come to the "Y," turn left two miles and arrive at church.

I-40 traveling south: traveling south on Hwy. 27 for four miles. Turn left on dirt road with Springfield sign traveling East 5.5 miles to "Y," turn left two miles and arrive at church.

Haikey Chapel UMC — March 14, 2009 from 11 a.m., to 3 p.m. Cost of adult dinner will be $7.00, child's dinner will be $3.50. The church is located at 8515 E. 101st St., in Tulsa.

For more information, contact Rev. July Tecumseh at (918) 681-6175.

Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church — March 21, beginning at 11a.m.. Cost of dinner will be $7.00. For more information, contact Donnie at (918) 650 - 0412 or Lou at (918) 623 - 0001.

Tulsa Creek Indian Community — Sat., March 21 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. The cost will be a donation and the menu will include wild onions, salt pork or ham, beans or hominy, corn, frybread, grape dumplings, dessert and tea (if wild onions cannot be purchased a traditional meal will be served).

As a courtesy to our Creek people, TCIC has invited The Creek Nation Citizenship Board to set up in the Conference room from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., where they will be able to replace membership cards and take applications for new members.

The TCIC is located at 8611 S. Union Ave., in Tulsa. For more information, please contact TCIC at (918) 298 - 2464 to get information about requirements needed to receive their services.

If your church, organization or community will be hosting a wild onion dinner not listed here or would like to share a photo from your event, please contact the Communications Department at (918) 732-7636 to be included in the April edition of the *Muscogee Nation News*.

UMC's Native American Ministries Sunday set for April 26, 2009

Media Release
United Methodist Church

OKLAHOMA CITY — April 26, 2008: Native American Ministries Sunday recognizes and supports the contributions of Native Americans to the church and society. The observance, approved by the 1988 General Conference, is one of six special church-wide Sunday offerings.

The funds collected will allow The United Methodist Church to partner with existing native ministries and create programs on behalf of Native Americans. Money collected also supports seminary scholarships for United Methodist Native Americans.

On Native American Ministries Sunday, United Methodists cultivate and support urban missions with Native Americans and fund scholarships for Native American seminarians. The annual conference retains 50 percent of the offering goes toward strengthening and developing Native American ministries. However, if no Native American ministries exist in the conference, the entire offering is remitted to the General Council on Finance and Administration for Native American ministries in other areas.

The remaining 50 percent of the offering expands mission work with the Native American Urban Initiative and provides scholarships for Native Americans attending United Methodist and other approved schools of theology.

Is it easier to learn Native American traditions from a Native American or an Irish American? This is why the Native American Ministries Sunday offering is critical – to continue the traditions and nurture the gifts of Native Americans. Approximately 19,000 United Methodists identify themselves as Native American. About 225 United Methodist churches, fellowships, and ministries that relate to this population.

FAITH-BASED NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Indian taco sale

SEMINOLE — The Little River Mission will be having an Indian taco sale beginning at 11 a.m., at the Human Development Building on the complex of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation on Fri., April 3. Indian taco, pop and dessert will be included with a $5.00 donation.

NIBC Easter service

NUYAKA — Nuyaka Indian Baptist church will be having their Easter services on Sun., April 12 beginning at 10:30 a.m. After services, there will be dinner and an egg hunt. For more information, please contact Donnie at (918) 650 - 0412 or Lou at (918) 623 - 0001.

Youth and young adult conference

OKLAHOMA CITY — The conference will be March 27 - 28, 2009 and held at Glorieta Baptist Church in Oklahoma City. Our theme is "Light" with the key verse of Ephesians 5:8, "For you were once darkness, but now [you are] light in the Lord. Walk as children of light."

For more information contact: Kelli Webster @ fumby_girl@hotmail.com.

Indian Falls Creek introduces new ministry

SHAWNEE — A new IFC Special Ministries is coordinating a new effort to serve as a RESOURCE for Native American Churches; and SOURCE for volunteers to fill a need in their counties.

IFC SM provides possible resource for: Revivals, Crusades, and Church partnerships as well as New Mentor program for new Ministers and Youth Pastors.

Look for more information on the IFC web site at http://www.indianfallscreek.com/site/., from IFC newsletters and through your Association DOM's and special presentation in IFC Summer Retreat 2009, or contact: BO TIGER, IFC SM Coordinator, 2611 N. PARK ST SHAWNEE, OK 74804 or e-mail: dwtiger2001@yahoo.com.

Oklahoma Baptist pastor-student survey

OKLAHOMA — Pastors we are asking that you take this short anonymous survey (three questions) regarding the working relationship between pastors and student ministers, provided at the following link: http://www.bgco.org/5396.

This survey will help the BGCO partner with Oklahoma Baptist churches to retain and reclaim the 70 percent of young adults who leave the church at age 18.

Thank you for your help. Brett Selby, Leadership Development Specialist at the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma. For more information, call (405) 942-3000, ext. 4400 or (405) 343-9192 or log on to www.bgco.org/leadership.

Celebrate Recovery group

DEL CITY — Hurts? Habits? Hang-ups? Addictions? Destiny Christian Center offers Celebrate Recovery each Thursday night beginning with a free dinner at 6 p.m. Large group with praise and worship begins at 7 p.m., and small groups [optional] start at 8 p.m., at Cross Talk Cafe at 9 p.m. [refreshments and fellowship].

Destiny is located at 3801 SE 29th St., in Del City, Okla., [between Sunnylane and Bryant]. Celebrate Recovery is open to the public and held in the Activity Center next to the Gymnasium. Childcare is available.

For more information, contact Cheryl Anquoe - Parnacher at (405) 250-6931 or e-mail Forgivn93@sbcglobal.net. For more about the CR program see this site: http://www.celebraterecovery.com/.

New Hope Fellowship hosts 2009 Youth Rally

WEWOKA — New Hope Fellowship Church will host the 2009 Youth Rally March 19-21.

Ministers will include Rev. Elison Bennett from Phoenix, Ariz., and Rev. Rick Manus from Tulsa. Music from New Creations, In His Gates, Visionary, Agopy, Trail of Tears, the Bennett Family, Steve Williams and New Child will be featured throughout the conference.

Nightly refreshments will be served after service and lunch will be provided on Sat., before the afternoon jam session. The church is located six and 3/4 miles north of Wewoka on Hwy. 56, or nine miles south from the Wewoka/Cromwell exit on I-40.

Indian Falls Creek update

FALLS CREEK — Dates For Indian Falls Creek are set for July 27 - 31, 2009. We are seeking churches to be part of a statewide candy sell. Contact Victor Cope at 405-598-8720 or e-mail ndnrev@aol.com for information concerning Indian Falls Creek 2009. If your church needs any help coming to camp please let us know ASAP.

Sometimes the underdog comes out on top

by Darren DeLaune
MNN Contributor

OKMULGEE — In today's world, we always have an underdog. Whether it is in sports, politics, or life, there will always be one. To some people who do not know what an underdog is (and no, it's not the fictional superhero canine), an underdog is a team or a person who ends up being victorious despite all the odds against them.

An example in politics is John F. Kennedy's defeat of Richard Nixon in the 1960 Presidential election. In the sports world, the 1980 U.S. Olympic Hockey Team beat the favored Russians by a score of 4-3. Historically, many people have been dubbed underdogs and Hollywood has portrayed this unique role in numerous films throughout the decades.

The 1983 film, "Hoosiers", is a classic tale of redemption that features a volatile coach and a former star player-turned alcoholic who led a small-town basketball team on an improbable run to the Indiana high school championship game. "Rudy", a movie based on one student's dream to play football at Notre Dame, reveals an underdog's passion to let nothing stop him from realizing his ambitions and eventually playing for the final seconds of a game in his senior year.

The 2007 box office hit, "300", was a ferocious retelling of the ancient Battle of Thermopylae in which King Leonidas and 300 Spartans fought to the death against Xerxes and his massive Persian army. Facing impossible odds, their valor and sacrifice inspired all of Greece to unite against their Persian enemy.

Although the Spartans fiercely battled the Persians, they were eventually defeated by their overwhelming enemies.

While the army of 300 Spartans displayed incredible heroism, I would also like to discuss another group of 300 men. These men, with their faith in the Lord, would ultimately go to battle and conquer a powerful army. These men, the Israelites, were led by a man whose name was Gideon. Gideon was an Israelite who was being held captive by the Midians. Out of fear, he and the rest of the Israelites cried out and prayed for someone to deliver them from their captors.

One day, the Lord (Hesaketvmese) sent an angel (Hvlwe-este) to Gideon and delivered his instructions. Initially, Gideon was skeptical of this angel and asked him to prove his abilities. Gideon asked if the Lord could make the fleece that he set on the ground wet with dew and the ground all around it to be dry; the Lord successfully performed this task for Gideon. Gideon then asked him to make only the ground wet with dew and leave the fleece dry. Gideon was soon amazed and realized the Lord would be able to help him.

Gideon was going to war with the Midians with 22,000 soldiers. The Lord advised Gideon that there were too many soldiers and that his army would have to be reduced to only 300 men. With 300 soldiers and the Lord's strength, Gideon was able to defeat the Midians in awe-inspiring combat.

These men, as underdogs, were able to go to war with a powerful army and not only defeat them, but chased them out of the country. A lot of people today think underdogs are weaker or smaller than their opposition. In most situations, underdogs have bigger hearts than the rivals they are going against.

During the next sporting event, election, or movie that spotlights the underdog, do not underestimate that person or team. Many times, the underdog will surprise his critics and overcome all doubt.

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LIFESTYLES

BIRTHDAYS

Elizabeth Rose Gallagher

ALTUS — Elizabeth Rose Gallagher celebrated her 10th birthday on Feb. 15 with a 'Prairie Party Cookout' with family and friends.

Parents are David Glenn and Katherine Rose Gallagher.

She has one sibling Victoria Elaine Gallagher.

Maternal grandparents are Gloria Elaine Winters and Darrell Gene and Audrey Hilliard.

Paternal grandparents are Fredrick and Imogene Lorriane Gallagher.

She attends Victory Baptist Church.

She is of the Raccoon Clan and of the Ketchopataka Hillabee Tribal Town.

Mekko Joaquin Tyner

OKMULGEE — Mekko Joaquin Tyner celebrated his first birthday on March 8 with a "Diego" themed party at the Newtown Okmulgee Indian Methodist Church.

Parents are Dawn and Mekko Tyner.

He has one sibling Marcus Kitchkommie.

Paternal grandparents are Claude and Belinda Tyner. Maternal grand parents are the late Douglas and Edwina Crowder. He is of the Wild Potato Clan and the Tallahassee Wvkokaye Ceremonial Ground.

Daelyn Marie Newman

PORTLAND, Ore., — Daelyn Marie Newman celebrated her birthday on March 10th with a 'Go Eagle' themed party.

Parents are Anthony and Teri Newman.

She has two siblings Anthony Jr. and Baylee Newman.

Grandparents are Tony and Rebecca Marks Newman.

Great grandparents are Joseph and Rebecca Marks.

She attends St.John Apostle School.

Anthony Newman Jr.

PORTLAND, Ore., — Anthony Newman Jr. celebrated his birthday on March 9 with a 'Go Eagle' themed party.

Parents are Anthony and Teri Newman.

He has two siblings Daelyn and Baylee Newman.

Grandparents are Tony and Rebecca Marks Newman.

Great grandparents are Joseph and Rebecca Marks.

He attends St.John Apostle School.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Dawn Dennison Devorse

BROKEN ARROW — Dawn Dennison Devorse celebrated the gift of life with the five-year anniversary of her successful kidney transplant at Los Cabos in Broken Arrow with family and friends on Sat., Feb 7.

Her parents are David Dennison Sr. and the late Sally Rolland Dennison.

Her siblings include David, Jr., and wife Danielle, Denise, Tina, and Jessica (Bunny) and husband Anthony Frazier.

Her nephews are Jason and Alex and nieces are Chelsea and Lindsay.

Her grand daughter is Lindsey Boo.

Her maternal grandparents are the late Albert and Nancy Rolland, Sr.

Her paternal grandparents are the late Josephine Nez of Naschitti New Mexico.

She is of the Deer Clan and of the Polecat Ceremonial Ground.

She wants to remind people to be an organ donor - it saved her life.

Brian Barnett

IRAQ — Brian Barnett is the son of Elaine and Richard Proctor. His grandparents are Dicey and Edward Barnett.

He has one sister, Paige, and two brothers, Dylan and Jack. Emvliketv: Konepvlke.

Micah Little

IRAQ — Micah Little is the son of Karen and Thomas Little.

His maternal grandparents are Dicey and Edward Barnett and his paternal grandparents are the late Mary and Clarence Little.

He has four sisters Tawna, Shaunday, Alisa, and Lindsey. Emvliketv: Konepvlke.

Tawna Smith

KUWAIT — Tawna Smith is the daughter of Karen and Thomas Little.

Her maternal grandparents are Dicey and Edward Barnett and her paternal grandparents are the late Mary and Clarence Little.

She has one brother, Micah, and three sisters, Shaunday, Alisa, and Lindsey. Emvliketv: Konepvlke.

Brian, Micah and Tawna

Brian, Micah and Tawna come from the same family and are proudly serving in the Army. They are stationed in Iraq and Kuwait. Tawna, Micah, and Brian are adored and loved by their family who are anxiously awaiting their return home!

They are strong and courageous for their time spent in active duty. To Brian, Micah, and Tawna we send our love and prayers to you and everyone else serving for our country, from the family! Brian and Micah can receive mail (as Tawna will be on her way home to visit soon) their mailing addresses are:

MICAH LITTLE
B CO 2-28 IN
USE MI//SC REO, AL-HILA
APO, AE 09136

SPC BRIAN BARNETT/ MORTARS
2-25 SBCT
HHC/ 1-27
IN SBCT 6260
APO, AE 09378

Autumn Harjo

MASON — Autumn Harjo is 11 years old and in the fifth grade at Mason Public School.

She recently placed first in her class spelling bee and also won first in the overall spelling bee for fifth through the eighth grade. She will be competing in the County Spelling Bee on March 14 at Weleetka Public School.

Parents are Mark and Alison Raines.

She has two siblings Mariah Harjo and Deven Raines.

Her grandparents are Nancy (West) Watson and the late Freddie Arkeketa and Simmer and Sharon Hicks.

BIRTHS

Tenetke Coachman Harjo, II

TULSA — Tenetke Coachman Harjo II was born Nov. 12, 2008 at Southcrest Hospital in Shawnee.

He weighed 4 pounds 13 ounces and was 17 inches long.

He is the son of Tenetke and Neccettia Harjo.

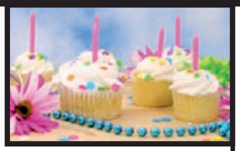
He has two siblings Tysie and Sadie Harjo

Grandparents are Mike and Sharon Proctor and Mike and Opal Harjo.

Great grandparents are Sam Proctor and Pauline Proctor, the late George and Christen B. Harjo, Josephine Harjo and the late Joe and Nettie Coachman. He is of the Sweet Potato Clan.

Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:



Roll Number:________________
Phone Number: (___)___________
Name: ____________________________
Address:____________________________
Date of Birth: ________________________
Theme of the party:____________________
Parents: ____________________________
Siblings: ___________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
School: _____________________________
Clan: ______________________________
Tribal Town:__________________________

Birth:

Roll Number:________________
Phone Number: (___)___________
Name: ____________________________
Address:____________________________
Date of Birth: ________________________
Name of Hospital: _____________________
Weight: _____ pounds _____ ounces_____inches
Parents: ____________________________
Siblings: ___________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ______________________________
Tribal Town:__________________________

Announcements:

Roll Number:________________
Phone Number: (___)___________
Name: ____________________________
Address:____________________________
Parents: ____________________________
Siblings: ___________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ______________________________
Tribal Town:__________________________
Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

It's late afternoon before the column is due. I've almost emailed the editor twice to say: "it's not possible". I am out on the West Coast rehearsing every night at San Diego State University for my show, Wings of Night Sky, Wings of Morning Light. It will open in Los Angeles in March, as part of the Native Voices at the Autry series. There are a few reasons I am telling you this: 1) I am need of a column ASAP, and mostly 2) maybe this will inspire others who think it's too late to pick up a musical instrument, write a book, learn the language, learn songs, or anything else, because they hit thirty (yes thirty, I've heard many a hitting-thirty panic that they were too old…. give me a break), forty, fifty, sixty, or….

This show is one of the biggest challenges I ever had. First, I had to write the show. I have rewritten the play countless times. I have written, recorded and performed the music for the play, and kept going, even as I have been turned down many times for one thing or another mostly for being too Indian, or not Indian enough. Go figure. And now, one of the most difficult challenges: I have to memorize the play, and to act. I haven't acted since I was a high school student at the Institute of American Indian Arts. I was always the shyest student and usually sat at the back of the class and said nothing.

I begged the director. "Please, let me just read the play." "No way", he said. "You can do it". "Well, at least let me tape all the lines to the floor", I argued. "No", he said. I even looked up how much it cost to rent a teleprompter. They were too expensive, and huge. Writing on my arms was the most cost effective. But I don't have enough arm space for the whole play. So, I'm here this afternoon, memorizing my play. And I'm nearing sixty. ("Nearing" means, I'm closer to sixty than to fifty.)

I don't like to write about myself, in fact, I'm several years late with a book I was contracted to write, because I don't want to write about myself. I write because I love stories and words, and these columns, because I think they might be useful. Maybe by writing this you might decide to keep going, to take care of your gifts, no matter how old you are, seven or hundred. I'm not special. There are many talented people out there in the nation.

I'm including an excerpt from the show. And if any of you make it out to LA between March 12th and March 29th, I'll get you in. Just say you're my relative, or you're with the band. Let me know. I'd be honored.

Redbird Monahwee (to her father): I followed you as you unloaded it from the truck. I helped, as you strung the deer up on the tree. I squatted down with you, as the red sun kissed the red earth. You tamped out some tobacco into our hands.

You said, "We pray with tobacco to acknowledge the spirit of the deer. We give thanks, mvto".

"There is much suffering on this earth. Even plants suffer. Tobacco agreed to come along as we walk this world. It's medicine, a gift from the Creator."

And remember I said, But Daddy, you smoke two packs of Lucky Strikes a day!"

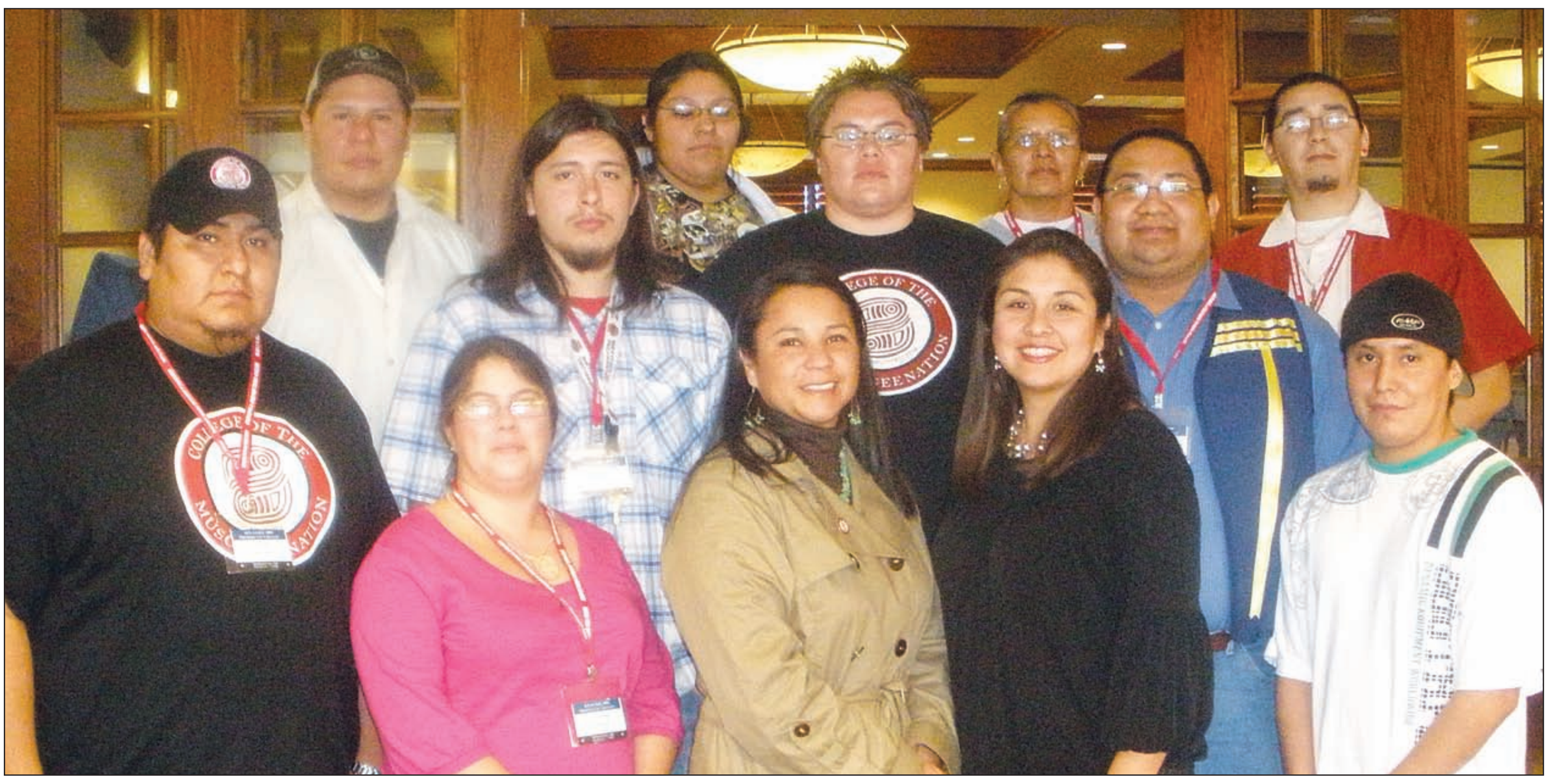
I was such a little plant, drinking in your words.

"And what about whiskey, Dad", I asked you.

"It's killing me", you said.

"I'm sorry, Hokte".

Harjo accepts leadership award



Photograph submitted by Mekko Tyner

College of the Muscogee Nation students and Native American Student Association (NASA) members at the ONASHE 2009 Conference. First row (l to r): Derek Simpson, Sanica Lining, CMN Academic Administrator Angela Bunner, National Council Representative Cherrah Ridge-Quiett, and Stepson Bigman. Middle row (l to r): Stephan Slinker, Amy Williamson, CMN Instructor Mekko Tyner. Back row (l to r): Russell Wind, NASA Princess Mikka Harjo, Sharon Proctor, and NASA President Tenetke Harjo.

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY — Tenetke Harjo, President of the CMN's Native American Student Association and Freshman Tribal services at the College of the Muscogee Nation was recently named the male Outstanding Up and Coming Leader.

Harjo received the honor at the 2nd annual ONASHE Conference, which was held on the campus of the Oklahoma City University and hosted by the Native American Society on February 6-7, 2009.

The mission of ONASHE is to provide opportunities for students to continue to develop and strengthen their leadership skills by interacting with current tribal leaders, participate in workshops that are relevant to contemporary student and leadership issues and fellowship with students. The hope is that students will leave this conference with a stronger sense of themselves, their community and a connection to students on campuses across the state.

As a nominee for the Outstanding Up and Coming Leader, Harjo had to meet the criteria of being a full-time student at an Oklahoma college/university, maintain a 2.75 cumulative GPA, and be active in leadership positions, campus organizations, community service/tribal involvement and honors/awards. Harjo also had to submit a one-page statement briefly describing his goals and how they would help him in his future endeavors.

All conference nominees for awards were selected by a group of their peers from the college and universities present at the conference. The ONASHE planning committee, which consisted of Christopher Roman Nose (OCU), Greg Factor (UNITY Inc.), Sedelta Oosahwee (NSU), Mekko Tyner (CMN), Gail Wilcox (CATC), and Robin Williams (OSU) gave the awards the conference luncheon.

Creeks featured at Tulsa Indian Art Festival

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

TULSA — Enthusiasts and a host of talented artists gathered at the Spirit Bank Event Center beginning Friday, Feb. 13, for the opening night of the three-day festival. Helping kick off the Festival was featured artist, Jon Tiger, a Muscogee (Creek) from Eufaula. Tiger's artwork, which was displayed on promotional materials and posters for the festivals, displays a pair of Creek ball sticks, as well as, a couple dressed in Creek attire. In the distance of the artwork an eagle soars over the silhouette of Tulsa.

In addition to a signing session, guests also enjoyed dining and entertainment. Performers for this year's festival were the sought-after collaborator Arvel Bird and Tulsa's Mahenwahdose. Bird has toured with some of the biggest names in country music and now performs his own unique style, which incorporates Celtic fiddling and Native American flute, rattle and chants. Mahenwahdose combined the melodic stories of Will Hill and the talented performance of Jehnean Washington, who were the first American Indians to perform at the National Museum of the American Indian at the Smithsonian Institute.

The Muscogee (Creek) citizens were well represented in both entertainers and artists at the Tulsa Indian Art Festival. Donna Branch McAlester, a Muscogee (Creek) was one of the artists displaying their work at the festival. McAlester made the trip from her home in Texas to Tulsa and said, "There's been a great turn out." Strolling casually through the festival one could easily have found themselves among the many talented Muscogee Creeks, such as Tiger, Hill, or McAlester.

Dan Townsend, the 2007 featured artist also returned to the festival. Townsend recently taught a class at the OSU-Okmulgee campus during the summer of 2008. His work is known all over the world.

The festival wound down on Sunday evening after a busy day of exhibition dancing, musical performances by Arvel Bird and storytelling by Mahenwahdose.

Fran Kimmel, the festival director said of the event, "We are very pleased with the turn-out, the sales, the venue, and the artists. It is quite possibly the best year the Tulsa Indian Art Festival has seen so far."

Over the years, the festival has hop-scotched locations to hold the event, but the committee expressed their delight in the current location.

The Tulsa Indian Art Festival has had an interesting journey from its humble roots to the current success the event enjoys today. Twenty three years ago when the American Indian Theater performed "The Trial of Standing Bear," Randolph Mantooth came from California to Tulsa to portray Standing Bear. He commented to Monetta Trepp that since Tulsa is in the heart of Indian Country, Indian artwork should play a prominent role in the city and he found none.

Around November, 1986, Monetta and five of her friends met for lunch and Tulsa Indian Art Festival was conceived. The goal was to showcase the outstanding artwork of Oklahoma's Indian Country and to create an awareness of the rich and diverse culture of the American Indian. At that time, there was no other annual Indian fine art market in Oklahoma. There was no money, there were no artists contact; and no one knew what a "festival" should be or how to accomplish whatever that was. Good intentions and faith would be enough.

"It was quite possibly our best year."
- Fran Kimmel, Festival Director

MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Pictured is Jon Tiger the Featured Artist of the 2009 Tulsa Indian Art Festival. His work was on display at the festival and featured on the promotional materials.

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Pictured is Muscogee (Creek) Citizen, Donna Branch McAlester, who was one of the artist at the Tulsa Indian Art Festival. McAlester traveled from Texas to display her work at the event.

OBITUARIES

THANK YOU

The family expresses their appreciation for the prayerful support and your presence during the farewell homecoming services of our loved one, Gene Harjo.

We thank the ministers officiating the services; Rev. George Doyle and Rev. David Dunson and the ministers who participated during the wake service. We thank Creek Nation Social Services for the financial aid; those from the Road Services Department for opening the grave and especially Salt Creek Methodist Church for allowing us to use their Church. We also thank those contributing food (and preparation of the meals), cards of sympathy, flowers, monetary gifts and words of comfort and prayers were very much appreciated. We extend our love to all of you. MVTO!!

Jimmie Harjo and family, Kindalei Harjo and family, Leola Barnett, Delores Herrod, and all of our kinfolks.

TERRANCE MARSHALL

WELEETKA — Terrance Rae Marshall, a Weleetka resident was born on February 1, 2001 in Midwest City to Sonny and Tishanne Marshall. He went to be with the Lord on Monday, February 9 in Henryetta at the age of 8 years old.

Terrance loved basketball, football, dodge ball, watching WWF wrestling, attending church and also loved reading his bible very much.

He was preceded in death by his cousins, George Jacobs, Jr. and Max Frye Jr., his aunt, Salana Marshall, and one uncle, James Hunt.

He leaves behind his parents, Sonny and Tishanne Marshall of Weleetka, three brothers, Charles Marshall, Seth Marshall, and Chandler Marshall and one sister, Reanne Marshall. Paternal grandparents Georganne Hicks and Bety Ben, Maternal Grandparents Maggie Lewis, maternal great grandmother, Nanni Lewis, and maternal great grandfather Sonni Kano, as well as a host of aunts, uncles, cousins and other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were Keith Hicks, Tory Simmars, Jeffery Mead, Kenneth Sour John, Blain Harrison, Ryan Simmars.

Wake services were held on Friday, February 13 at Sand Creek Baptist Church in Wetumka.

Funeral services were held Saturday, February 14 at the Sand Creek Baptist Church with Rev. Harry Anderson officiating. Interment will follow at Hillcrest Cemetery in Weleetka.

THANK YOU

The brothers and sisters; nieces and nephews of Susan K. Van Woudenberg send their sincere gratitude and appreciation for all the love; support; gifts and flowers during loss and bereavement of our sister; special thank you to all the pastors and pastoral staff and to the Belvin Indian Baptist Church in Okmulgee. Mvto.

EARL SANDS

CASTLE — Earl Shorty Sands went home to be with the Lord Feb. 06. Earl was born August 22, 1927 to John and Lena (Harjochee) Sands. Earl was baptized on March 4, 1943 at Green Leaf Baptist Church. He later became a member of Tekopvchee Methodist Church on July 28, 1991. Earl was a lifetime resident of Castle, Okla.

Earl was preceded in death by his parents, three children, his brothers Russell, Lemley, and Jonah Sands.

He is survived by his wife of fifty-eight years, Wisey, two sons Clifford and wife Lisa Sands of Okemah and James Sands of Casle. Three daughters, Irene, Jeannie and Barbara Sands, all of Okemah. One sister, Edith Hicks of Castle. Seven grandchildren, Carol Humble, John Sands, Jeanine Factor, Owen Sands, Brett Sands, Clifton Sands, and Tye Stacy. Seven great-grandchildren, a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Earl was a retired farmer who loved being around his family. Earl enjoyed many hobbies but loved coon hunting and his dogs. He enjoyed working his puzzle books and playing his guitar. He loved all kinds of music and being outside with his grandchildren and great grandchildren. He also enjoyed all kinds of sports activities. He enjoyed participating in family volleyball games and was a self proclaimed "World Champ" at horse shoes. Earl was a great story teller who had many friends and made new friends where ever he went. Earl loved everyone. He was the best dad, grandpa, and friend. He was always there when his family needed him and always stood by them. Earl was deeply loved and will be missed by all who knew him.

Funeral services were held February 11 at Tvkvpvchee Methodist Church. Services were officiated by Paul Fixico and Rev Kenneth Cooper.

Pallbearers were John Sands, Bobby Sands, Mike Sands, Billy Cooper, Keither Humble and Clifton Sands.

Honorary pallbearers were Owen Sands, Tye Stacy, Garrett Sands, Brett Sands, Landon Humble, and Arthur Sands.

Interment was at the Holahta-Sands Family Cemetery.

DANIEL TOWNSEND

MADISONVILLE, Texas — Memorial services for Mr. Daniel Leckie Townsend, age 67, of Madisonville will be held Thursday February 26, 2009 at 10 a.m., in the First United Methodist Church in Madisonville. Dr. George Wilson, pastor of the church, will officiate at the services.

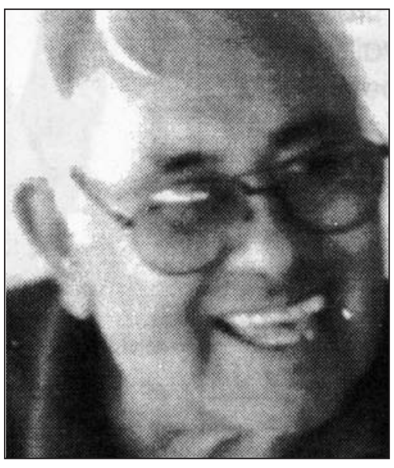
Following the services, a gathering of friends and a fellowship will be held at the Oak Ridge Country Club in Madisonville.

Mr. Townsend was born February 26, 1941 in Ft. Smith, Arkansas to Gerald and Florence Barnett Townsend. He had lived in Madisonville for the last fifteen years but had lived most of his life in Noel, Missouri where his four sons were raised. Mr. Townsend died Sunday evening February 22, 2009 at his residence.

Mr. Townsend was preceded in death by his mother, Florence Townsend and a son, Phillip Townsend. He was retired from the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Survivors include his wife Carol Townsend of Madisonville; father, Gerald Townsend of Pryor, Oklahoma, three sons, Brian Townsend and wife Denise of Grapeland, Texas, Curtis Townsend and wife Anita of Austin, Texas and Jeff Townsend and wife Lisa of Alvin, Texas and seven grandchildren, Payson, Mackenzie, Morgan, Carolyn, Eastman, Brooke, and Luke. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the First United Methodist Church, 102 S. McIver, Madisonville, Texas 77864.

HENRY COKER SR.



HENRYETTA — Henry Coker Sr. age 71, died Sunday, February 1 at home surrounded by his family. He was born n March 26, 1937 in Wewoka to Tom and Helen (Larney) Coker. After serving his country in the Air Force, he worked as a truck driver.

Surviving him are his wife, Emma (Starr) Coker; sons, Lucas Coker, Henry Coker Jr., Zane Lee Coker, William Phillips, Shannon Starr, and John Billie; daughters, Rachel Farani, Alvina Wallace, Madonna Williams and Anjanette Coker; 20 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.

Preceding him in death are his parents and son, Don Coker.

Services were held Feb 4., at Shurden Funeral Home in Henryetta. Rev. Houston Tiger officiated. Burial was at Thomas Family Cemetery.

SUSAN WOUDENBERG

OKMULGEE — First Thesalonians 5:18. Susan came to earth on Feb. 19, 1953 and was born with a heart of gold. The biblical meaning to her name means "Lily" which brings beauty and light.

More beautiful than all the flowers that blossom in the heart of a Loving Sister. She volunteered in the ministry of Helps whenever she heard: "We need help."

Ushering people into the "Presence of God" was her passion. To her sisters she was their remembrance of Hope. To her brothers she was their remembrance to find God.

To nieces and nephews she was their remembrance to love God. To her aunts she was their remembrance to be servants. To her cousins she was their remembrance to be aware of the evil one. To her brothers-in-law she was their remembrance to always love their wives (her sisters) for this would point the children to God.

Preceded her in death: Father Elmer Van Woudenberg, Mother Esther Simmer Van Woudenberg, Sister Katherine Van Woudenberg, Sister Ella Mae Woudenberg.

Maternal grandfather Samuel Simmer, Grand mother Sarah Miller Simmer, Great Aunt Polly Homma, Uncles Dave Powell, Abe Simmer, Curtis Simmer, Aunts Bernice Hicks, Pauline Grayson, Nephew Victor Van Woudenberg.

Sisters Chiquita Simmer Smith, Glenda Childers, Irene VanBuskirk, Barbara Van Woudenberg, Gayla Van Woudenberg, Tenna Van Woudenberg.

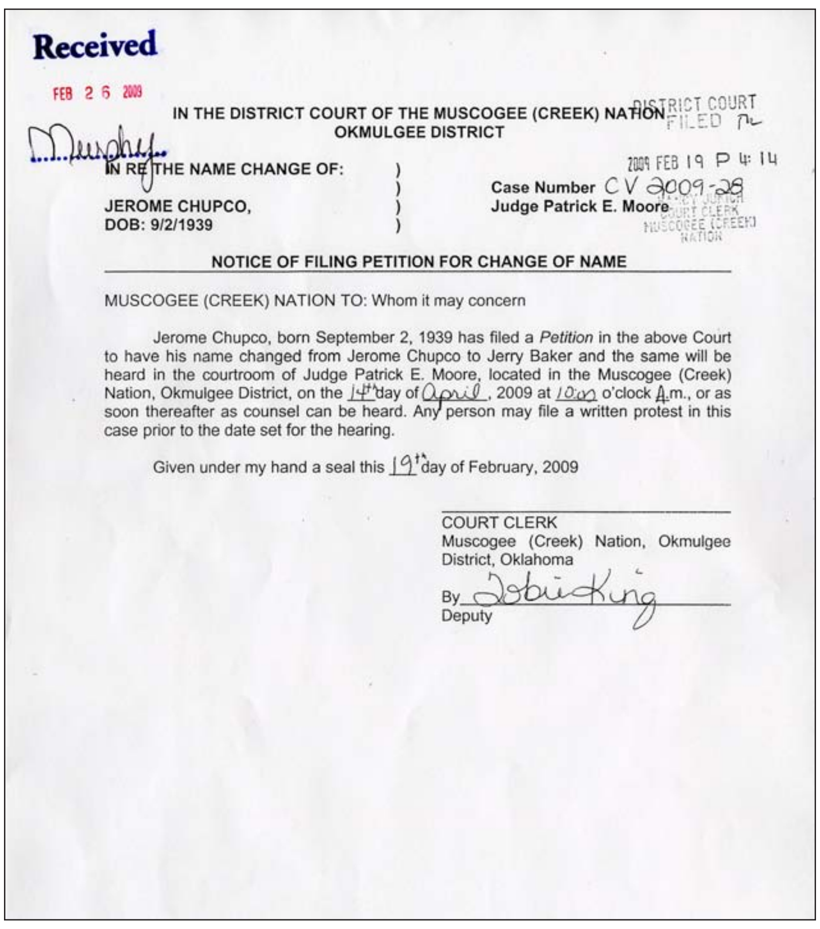
Brothers: Samuel Van Woudenberg, John Woudenberg, Fredrick Van Woudenberg. Aunts: Rebecca Autaubo, Priscilla Kabehia. Longtime friend / fiance: Clifford Smith. And several nieces and nephews and cousins, too many to mention.

Yes, another angel went into permanent earthly sleep on January 27, to awaken at that very same moment with our Lord in Heaven.

Funeral Services: Belvin Indian Baptist Church on Feb. 3, officiated by Rev. Nigel Bigpond. Interred at Tallahassee Family Cemetery.

Pall Bearers: Robert H. Smith Jr., Elijah Nasr. Micah Hindman, Edward Simmer, Rocky L. Herd, Michael Van Woudenberg, Whitebird Van Woudenberg, Geoorge Autaubo Jr., Jessiee Childers, Robert Kabehia, Josih VanBurkirk, Dustin Van Woudenberg, Joshua Van Woudenberg, Ricky Powel.

Legal Notices (con't from A2)



Received
FEB 26 2009

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED
2009 FEB 19 P 4:14

Murphy

IN RE THE NAME CHANGE OF:)
)
JEROME CHUPCO,)
DOB: 9/2/1939)

Case Number CV 2009-28
Judge Patrick E. Moore

NANCY JUKICH COURT CLERK MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

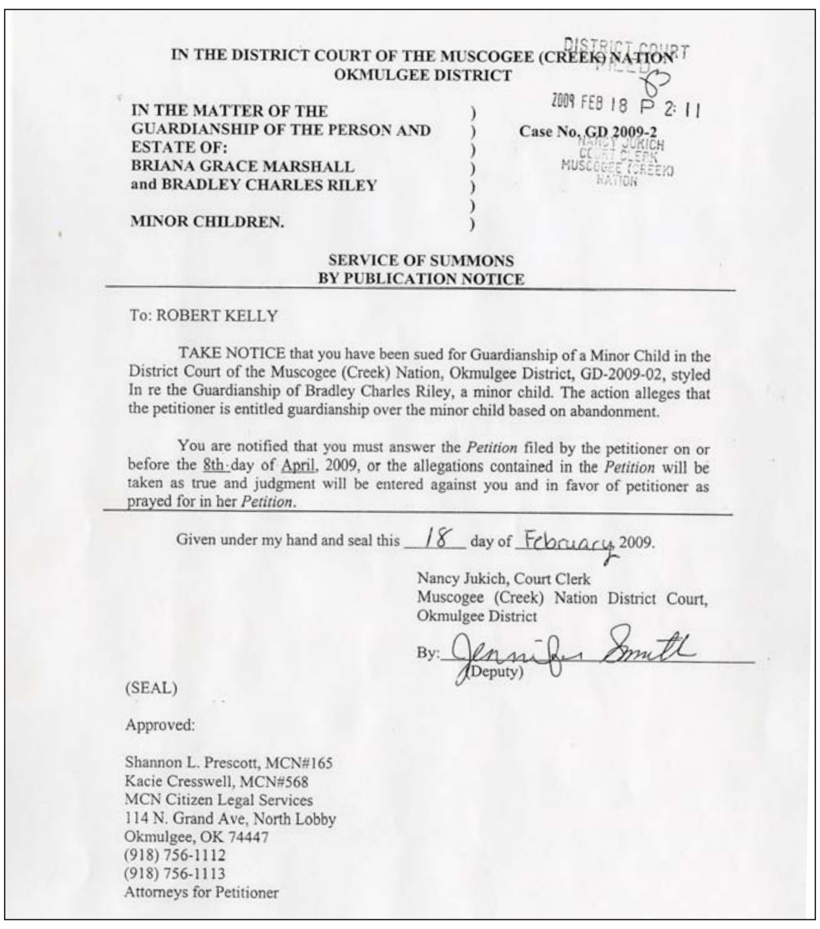
NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

Jerome Chupco, born September 2, 1939 has filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have his name changed from Jerome Chupco to Jerry Baker and the same will be heard in the courtroom of Judge Patrick E. Moore, located in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, on the 14th day of April, 2009 at 10:00 o'clock A.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 19th day of February, 2009

COURT CLERK
Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Oklahoma
By Tobie King
Deputy



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED
2009 FEB 18 P 2:11

IN THE MATTER OF THE)
GUARDIANSHIP OF THE PERSON AND)
ESTATE OF:)
BRIANA GRACE MARSHALL)
and BRADLEY CHARLES RILEY)
)
MINOR CHILDREN.)

Case No. GD 2009-2

NANCY JUKICH COURT CLERK MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

**SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To: ROBERT KELLY

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for Guardianship of a Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD-2009-02, styled In re the Guardianship of Bradley Charles Riley, a minor child. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner on or before the 8th day of April, 2009, or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

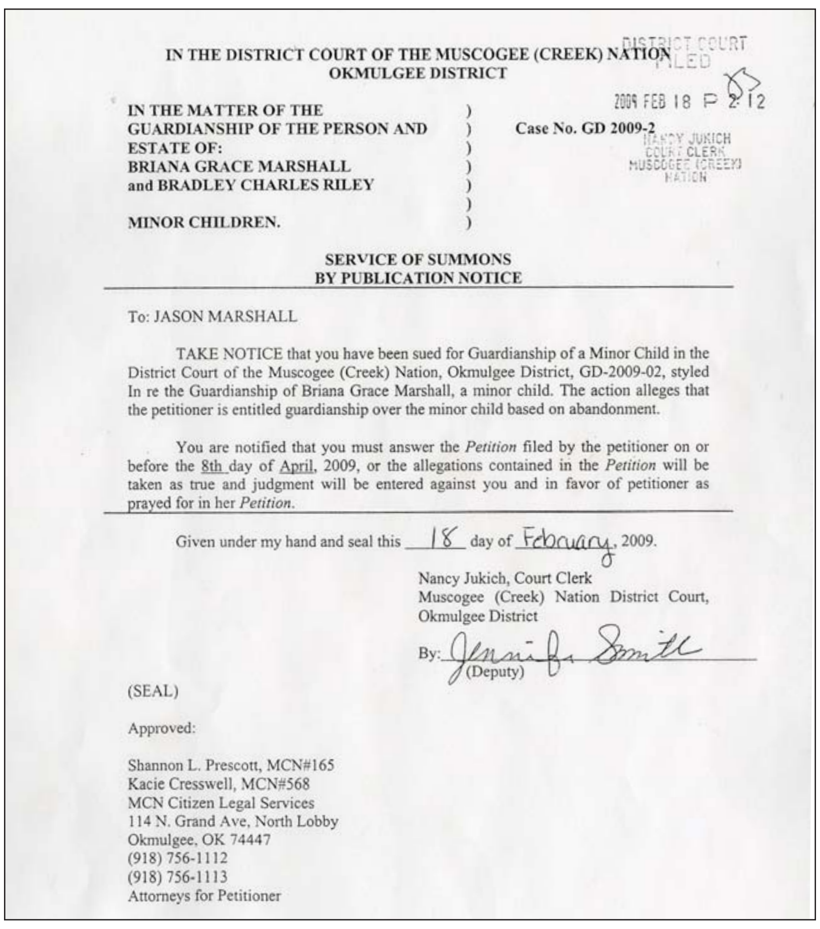
Given under my hand and seal this 18 day of February 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District
By: Jennifer Smith
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

Approved:

Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kacie Cresswell, MCN#568
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113
Attorneys for Petitioner



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED
2009 FEB 18 P 2:12

IN THE MATTER OF THE)
GUARDIANSHIP OF THE PERSON AND)
ESTATE OF:)
BRIANA GRACE MARSHALL)
and BRADLEY CHARLES RILEY)
)
MINOR CHILDREN.)

Case No. GD 2009-2

NANCY JUKICH COURT CLERK MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

**SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To: JASON MARSHALL

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for Guardianship of a Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD-2009-02, styled In re the Guardianship of Briana Grace Marshall, a minor child. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner on or before the 8th day of April, 2009, or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

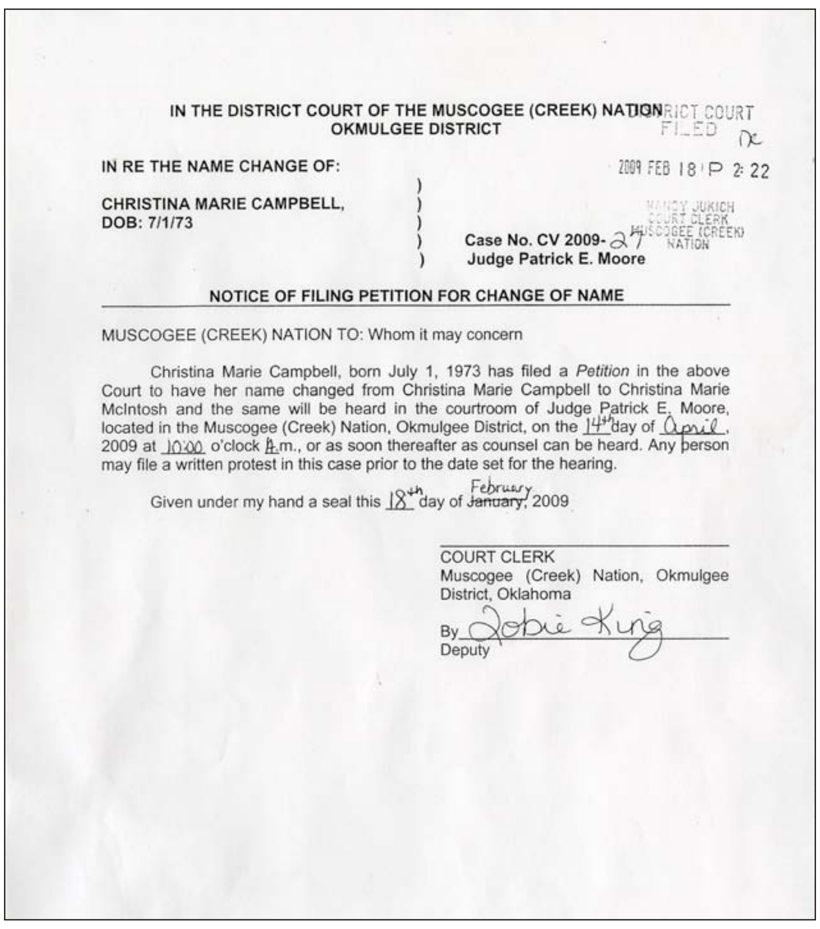
Given under my hand and seal this 18 day of February, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District
By: Jennifer Smith
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

Approved:

Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kacie Cresswell, MCN#568
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113
Attorneys for Petitioner



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED
2009 FEB 18 P 2:22

IN RE THE NAME CHANGE OF:)
)
CHRISTINA MARIE CAMPBELL,)
DOB: 7/1/73)

Case No. CV 2009-27
Judge Patrick E. Moore

NANCY JUKICH COURT CLERK MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

Christina Marie Campbell, born July 1, 1973 has filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have her name changed from Christina Marie Campbell to Christina Marie McIntosh and the same will be heard in the courtroom of Judge Patrick E. Moore, located in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, on the 14th day of April, 2009 at 10:00 o'clock A.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 18th day of ~~January,~~ February 2009

COURT CLERK
Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Oklahoma
By Tobie King
Deputy

The stars come out for Madness in March

• All-Indian basketball tournament has showcased some of the country's top talent

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

Photos courtesy of 4 Love of the Game, Kansas Athletics and AP photographer Wade Payne

Pictured above at far left is Angel Goodrich making a move on a defender during semi-final action at the 2008 All-Indian Madness in March Tournament. To the right, Goodrich is introduced to the fans at Phog Allen Fieldhouse on the campus of the University of Kansas during the "Midnight Madness" celebration. 2008 Madness in March MVP Alyssia Brewer, second from right, is shown taking the ball to the hoop during last years M.I.M. All-Star Game. Brewer now gets snapped in photos playing for her new team, the Tennessee Lady Volunteers.

HENRYETTA — Let's say you are watching next year's womens NCAA basketball tournament. You are continually amazed by the dynamic guard play of Kansas' Angel Goodrich, but can't help switching over to see the finesse post game of Tennessee's Alyssia Brewer. Then you ask yourself, "wow, how cool would it be to see those two play on the same team?" I hate to break it to you, but if you were at the 2008 All-Indian Madness in March Tournament in Henryetta, you could have seen just that.

The two college superstars were paired together during the pool play competition and did nothing to disappoint the buzzing crowd that watched their every move.

"It seemed like every eye in the gym was on those two," said Victor Bear, who helps coordinate the tournament. "It's a nice testament to the kind of talent that gathers every year at this tournament."

Since it's inaugural year in 2003, the All-Indian Madness in March Tournament has boasted some of the top basketball players in the country, and is quickly building up a formidable alumni list. Last year, the top draw was Goodrich and Brewer, the two top female players in the state of Oklahoma. Goodrich signed with the University of Kansas Jayhawks, and although she is rehabbing a torn knee ligament, figures to be a starting contributor next year. Brewer, meanwhile, signed with the Tennessee Lady Vols and is seeing significant minutes in her first year under the tutelage of college basketball's all-time winningest coach Pat Summit.

But what makes the tourney so special, is that those two athletes are only part of a group of elite-level talent that have come through and wowed the crowd. Jenna Plumley played in the tournament for three years before heading to the University of Oklahoma on full scholarship. Eric Cazenave is an all-conference performer and an All-American candidate for the UCO Broncos, but not before the sharpshooting guard ripped the twines during the very first Madness in March back in 2003. A trio of alumni, Zac Goodrich, Brandon Bark and Randy July, headed north to Sterling College in Kansas and helped the Warriors win their first regular season conference championship this season. Cassie Considine commanded respect in the post with her 6'3" frame and sound fundamentals. Now, she is an impact freshman in Annapolis as a member of the women's team at the U.S. Naval Academy.

What makes the tourney even more special is that these athletes are just a small amount of participants in the annual event that have gone on to college to further their education. One of the main focal points of the week's events is stressing the value of education, and not just for those interested in extending their athletic career.

So if you've never experienced this great showcase, definitely make a point to be in town when Madness in March hits in 2009. You never know how many rising stars you can watch as they climb to the top.

Creek runner excels at OBU

• Billy Christy from Eufaula qualifies for nationals

by Gerald Wofford
MCN Communications

SHAWNEE — The history of the Native American runner is a rather romantic one. It seems if their is one athletic endeavor that Indians seem to be connected to is the sport of running. Often we hear about the long distance runners that many of the tribes from out west have represented, from long distance marathons to the short sprints, the history of running, and track and field have come to be infused with Native American athleticism.

Probably what Jim Thorpe accomplished almost 100 years ago solidified that reputation as well.

That excellent reputation continues as well on the campus of Oklahoma Baptist University (OBU). This is where Muscgoee (Creek) Runner Billy Christy has been setting himself apart from the competition. The junior from Eufaula, Okla. was an All-American on the OBU Track team last year and looks to do the same this year. Christy has already qualified for a National Tournament while competing at the Oklahoma Christian Indoor Invitational in February.

Christy has been successful all season long at OBU, and started the season off strong at the Kansas State All-Comers meet. Christy took first place in the 600 with a time of 1:13:39. Christy would improve on that time at the University of Oklahoma's J.D. Martin Indoor Track Meet in January. Christy had a time there of 1:12:80.

OBU track coach Ford Mastin has enjoyed the success of Christy and the team as well. "I believe we had the best team at both National meets last year. We worked hard and expected a lot," said Mastin, who is in his 13th year of coaching the OBU Bison track squad.

Christy now looks forward to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Indoor Championships that will take place March 5-7.

Considering his accomplishments from last year, garnering All-American honors during his first campaign, and his strong start, the sky seems to be the limit for this young Creek runner and Christy expects good things to continue to happen.

HOTCORNER

JASONsalsman
jsalsman@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
(918) 732-7644

What's happening 'stecat's! Good to be back for this month's edition of the Hot Corner. Glad to be holding down the 3-bag once again, and I hope all the fellas out there didn't break their banks on Valentine's Day. I don't really like it that much. I'm one of the good guys so I say, just be good to your ladies 365 days out of the year. That way, she won't need diamonds or roses to know how you feel about her. Ok, when did I transform into Dr. Phil? What am I doing?? This is a sports column for cryin' out loud! I got off subject with my two-cent rambling, so let's just stick to what I DO know.

I know when March arrives everybody gets a little crazy about basketball, and trust me I'm right there with you. The NCAA Tournament might be the greatest sports spectacle that we have going right now, honestly. But my motor gets a little extra power this time of year because I'm a baseball man. Yep, when everyone else is hearing sneakers squeak on gym floors, I'm hearing the opening riff of John Fogerty's "Center Field." If you're not familiar with the tune, its the "put me in coach, I'm ready to play" song. By now, I'm sure you've got it.

Anyway, spring training is under way and whether your eyes are focused on Arizona or Florida, one simple truth remains; there is no better time than now for the "purist" baseball fan. I say that because this is the only time of year you'll see managers walking around with fungos, you'll see twenty-year olds getting their first taste of what it's like to be big league. And more importantly, you see a limited return of fundamentals and situational baseball. These are things that waved "bye-bye" to the game a while back and it stinks. You can watch every game from opening day to the final out of the World Series and you might see 50 instances of a hit and run. That's crazy. Somewhere Coach Wiley Ryal is shaking his head., and I'm right there with him cause I'm just as old school. My favorite teams of all time were those mid-80's St. Louis Cardinals squads. Willie McGee, Terry Pendleton, Vince Coleman and "The Wizard" didn't smash home runs. They beat you with speed, defense, instincts and baseball savvy smarts. What happened?

Oh, that's an easy question to answer. Look no further than the root of all evil; money. Baseball commissioners, owners, general managers and players weren't content to leave the game as America's past-time. They wanted to make it big business. How do you maximize profit? By putting butts in the seats. And those people coming to watch are a new fan base, not the old purists. And what do the new school folks want to see? Certainly not good, situational baseball. No, they want to see balls flying out of the yard at a historic pace. Never mind that these guys are now injecting themselves with steroids, and tainting the history of the grand game. They're bringing in more money! That's all that matters to the baseball brass. Why else would they turn their heads and act like they have been in the dark for all these years when it came to performance-enhancing drugs in baseball? Make no mistake about it, they knew. And what's sad is players like Alex Rodriguez, Jason Giambi and a host of others have to be led to the slaughter house while there is no accountability for those pushing the buttons. Now I'm against what A-Rod and Giambi have done. They have cheated the game and those guys have to live with that. But why do the big-wigs get to sit back and stay off the firing squad? It will never be the same either way. Big baseball is here to stay, because that is what brings the dough in. And don't be too quick to blame the players and their ballooned salaries. I know they make and ask for too much. But commissioner Bud Selig last year made $17 million, which was more than all but four players in the league. Can we please start getting a better example from the top?

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The Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court

Presents the 7th Annual

Doing Business in Indian Country©

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION SEMINAR

March 12-13, 2009

Outline of Day One
Thursday, March 12th, 2009

8:30	Registration & Complimentary Hot Breakfast
8:40	Ceremonial Opening Exercise
8:50	Welcome & Introductions by District Court Judge Patrick E. Moore & Comments by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis
9:00	Indian Tribal Energy Development & Self-Determination Act, Judith Royster, Professor of Law, University of Tulsa
10:00	Break
10:10	Indian Tribal Energy Development & Self-Determination Act , Judith Royster, Professor of Law, University of Tulsa
11:00	Cossey v. Cherokee Nation, LLC
11:50	Complimentary Lunch – Culinary Arts Chefs, OSUIT
1:15	Ethical Considerations with Indian Tribes Shelly Grunsted, JD, LL.M. – Professor, University of Oklahoma
2:20	Break
2:30	Water Law and Land Rights – Where's the Sovereignty? Richard Monette
3:30	Exerting Sovereignty in Responsible, Renewable, and Revenue Building Ways - Shannon Prescott, JD, Glendening, McKenna & Prescott
4:30	Question & Answer Period – Entire Panel
5:00	Muscogee (Creek) Nation Bar Association Swearing-In Ceremony Justices of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court
5:30	Complimentary Barbecue Dinner at the Okmulgee Casino

Outline of Day Two
Friday, March 13, 2009

8:30	Opening Remarks – District Court Judge Patrick E. Moore
9:00	Tribal Employment Responsibilities: Federal & State Mandates - Phillip Wilson
10:00	Break
10:05	Ethical Responsibility – It all Starts with You Nim Razook, Professor
11:00	Redefining Tribal Entity through Economic Development Mark Jarboe
12:00	Complimentary Lunch – Culinary Arts Chefs, OSUIT
1:30	National Indian Gaming Commission's Proposed Class II Regulations - Joe Valandara
2:20	Break
2:30	National Indian Gaming Regulations NIGC Representative
3:20	Panel Discussion: Question & Answer Session Seminar Speakers
4:30	Closing Comments and Evaluations
	Adjourn

REGISTRATION FORM
DOING BUSINESS IN INDIAN COUNTRY – 2009

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FIRM/ORGANIZATION ____________________

ADDRESS ____________________

CITY ____________________ STATE __________ ZIP CODE __________

OBA MEMBER: YES ☐ NO ☐ If yes, OBA BAR # __________ E-MAIL ____________________

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Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court – CLE Program
P.O. Box 652
Okmulgee, OK 74447
918-758-1400
mvskoke@aol.com

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

River Spirit celebrates grand opening

GAMING - A5

Social Security Program is on the move

PROGRAMS/

NOTICES - A7

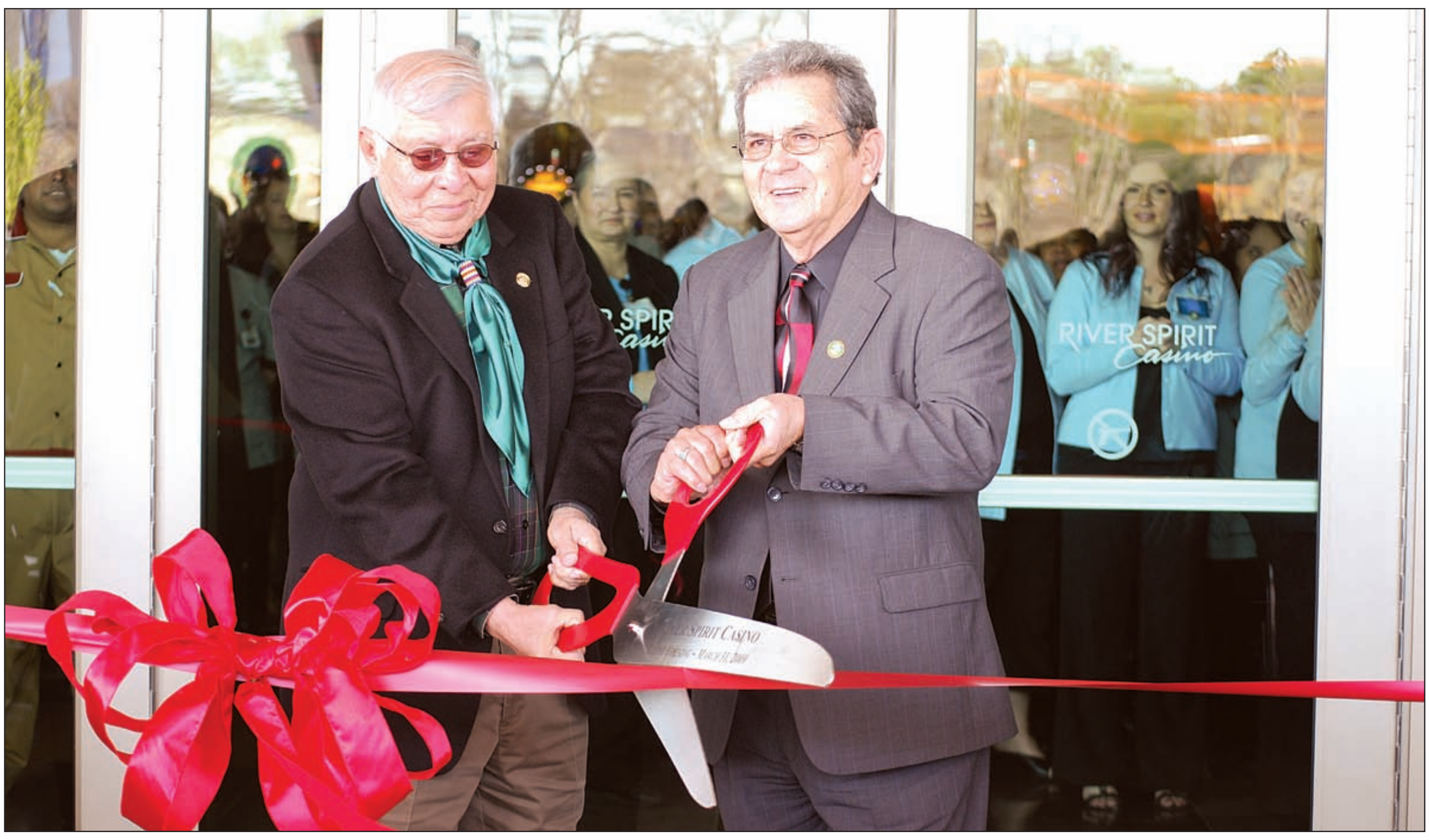
MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

APRIL 2009
Volume 39, Issue 4
SEMI-MONTHLY

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

The Spirit comes to life

• Tulsa's River Spirit Casino celebrates grand opening



MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Pictured above from left to right are Speaker of the Muscgoee (Creek) National Council Thomas Yahola and Principal Chief A.D. Ellis at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new River Spirit Casino in Tulsa. For additional photos from the VIP event and grand opening, please turn to page A5.

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RIVER SPIRIT WORTH THE WAIT

TULSA – On Tues., March 31, Muscogee (Creek) Nation opened the doors to the newest member of the gaming family with the introduction of the River Spirit Casino. Conveniently located beside the Arkansas River in Tulsa, the new facility boasts an impressive array of entertainment features including gourmet food selections, one of the largest gaming floors in the state and a rich interior boasting a beautiful collection of Mvskoke art pieces alongside the modern designs of the casino.

A crowd of patrons were lined up at the door for the opening where National Indian Gaming Association Chairman Ernie Stevens briefly addressed the crowd, stating that the opening signals a great time of prosperousness for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and tribes as a whole, but also stressing humbleness as well. According to Chief Ellis at the ribbon-cutting ceremony, "This is just the beginning."

MCN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

SEE PAGE A5

Hogen returns to CLE

•National Indian Gaming Commissioner headlines 7th annual event

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The 7th annual "Doing Business in Indian Country" Continuing Legal Education (CLE) seminar kicked off on Thurs., March 12 at the Mound Building auditorium.

With a host of speakers from around the country, this year's CLE focused on ways in which tribes may more effectively deal with the faltering economy when it comes to legal issues.

Tribal officials, professors and attorneys from all over the U.S., met for the two-day seminar which was highlighted by National Indian Gaming Commissioner Phil Hogen who spoke on the latest in tribal gaming regulations. Also from the NIGC was former Chief of Staff Joe Valandara who informed participants about the Commission's proposed Class II regulations.

Hogen stated that the Commission has been streamlining a set of technical standards for class II and III gaming. "We've struggled for some time to come up with these set of technical standards. We're sure they're not yet perfect, but I think they are a big step in the right direction in terms of making sure the public's confidence will continue in these systems and these games."

The line-up of speakers also included Professor of Law at the University of Tulsa, Judith Royster, J.D., Professor and CEO for the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Richard Monette, President of the Labor Relations Institute Philip Wilson, Partner for Head of Indian Gaming Mark Jarobe, Partner at ORRICK Townsend Hyatt, Director of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Indian Legal Services Clinic Shannon Prescott, and Director of the Integrated Business Core Program and Clinical Lecturer in Legal Studies at the Michael F. Price College of Business at the University of Oklahoma Shelly Grunsted, J.D.

Shannon Prescott spoke briefly about renewable energy and energy deployment in Indian Country, noting there are a couple of easy steps tribes may take in order to become more efficient in their use of renewable energy including making green improvements to existing buildings.

Along with the impressive collection of contributing speakers, the annual event also showcased the newest editions to the Mvskoke Bar Association after a swearing-in ceremony performed by Supreme Court Justices Houston Shirley and Amos McNac at the conclusion of day one.

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Pictured above is National Indian Gaming Commissioner Phillip Hogen who returned to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's "Doing Business in Indian Country" 7th annual Continuing Legal Education seminar.

Tribes 'return to roots' at food symposium

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative (MFSI) hosted the first annual "Return to Your Roots" Food Sovereignty Symposium in the Mound Building at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation on March 20- 21.

The symposium boasted an array of speakers from all over the U.S., in addition to local food production specialists from the Muscogee (Creek) Indian communities such as Hanna and Wilson.

Also featured was Jeff Metoxin from the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin who spoke to attendees about the future of traditional foods and food sovereignty.

According to Susie Harjo from the Hanna Indian Community, farming isn't always easy work, but it does reap rewards. "Sometimes you've just got to hold on and let the creator provide for you," Harjo said.

SEE ROOTS - A4

Court dismisses CV09 - 34; continues CV09-33

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — On Tues., March 17, Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court Judge Patrick Moore dismissed CV 2009 - 34, citing ripeness which is a justiciability doctrine designed to prevent premature adjudication. After hearing opening statements from both sides, Moore stated that the judicial branch would not prematurely interfere with the law-making process.

Afterward, the Court began hearing arguments for CV 2009 - 33, Ellis v. MCN Communities which will be continued on Mon., April 6 at 9 a.m., in the MCN Mound Building Courtroom.

> *"In this instance the political process has not matured sufficiently and is not ripe to warrant judicial intervention."*
>
> **- MCN District Court Order**

EXECUTIVE A2

From the Office of Principal Chief A.D. Ellis

NATIONAL COUNCIL A3

National Council minutes

LEGISLATIVE A4

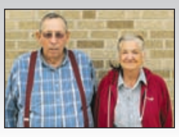
Week of March 30 – April 4, 2009 proclaimed U.S. Census Awareness Week

BUSINESS/GAMING A5

Tulsa Casino opens River Spirit

HEALTH A6

"A family affair of the heart"



PROGRAMS/NOTICES A7

Integrated Resource Management conducting tribal survey

Muscogee Nation News
STAFF
Manager - Lucas Taylor
Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
Contributing Copy Editor - Kellen Bible
Senior Writer - Angel Ellis
Graphic Design - Carla Brown
Graphic Design - Tyler Roberds
Advertising - Ruth Bible
Feature Writer - Gerald Wofford
Sports Writer - Jason Salsman
Reporter - Starla Bush
Reporter - Joshua Slane
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Circulation - Wilma Murphy

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Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

From the Office of the Principal Chief

From Chief Ellis

Submitted March 22, 2009

Hello All:

Today is a very good day. Our Nation is moving ahead as usual. The new 200 million dollar casino, River Spirit Casino will open March 31, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., everyone is invited to attend.

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis

I would like to take this opportunity to respond to some of the things I've been hearing. I have been accused, by the opposition, of using the Permanent Fund to Finance the construction of the new casino. I want to assure everyone that all the Permanent Fund monies are in our tribal Treasury and are not obligated for any particular project. The casino was financed through Bank of America and Wells Fargo. It is being financed at the rate of 5.7%, possibly the best rate in Indian Country.

As you know, the lawsuit, Muscogee (Creek) National Council vs. the Principal Chief, CV-2009-34 was dismissed. Some members of Council that oppose to this administration keep trying to interfere with the functions of my administration. I'm in no way, referring to all Council members but to the few who neglect to follow tribal law, some of the very laws they voted on and enacted. Also, we are very confident that we will prevail in the community lawsuit that is currently being heard.

I just want to inform you, there are many false statements being made, many rumors being spread. People seem to think, I can just do whatever I want with tribal funds. That's not so, there are checks and balances in place. I am a strong believer in checks and balances.

Also, I was even told that cars and T-shirts around Eufaula say, "Impeach Chief Ellis". That does not bother me at all. Just look at what all this Administration has accomplished in the last 5 years. The Eufaula Community bashes my Administration, but I find it very ironic, Tuesday, the day of the hearing some members of the Eufaula Community arrived at the District Court hearing in a pretty new bus that the Transit System owns. A Transit System that this Administration created.

Accomplishments of Chief Ellis and his administration 2004-2009:

1. Completed River Spirit Casino - $200 million project, largest project in Tribal history

2. Assuming Housing – three years before 2004, only 78 homes was built in those 3 years, after Housing went under the administration 468 homes were built within three years.

3. 40-acre Industrial Park in Okmulgee – Completed

4. Tribal Transit Authority – largest Indian Transit Authority in America

5. New Lighthorse Police Station – ultra modern facility also one-of-a-kind in Indian Country

6. New Finance Office Building

7. Finished completing elderly housing complex and Elderly Nutrition Center north of headquarters

8. New Holdenville Casino

9. New Elderly Nutrition Center in Wetumka

10. New expanded Casino at Bristow. 2004 net profit approximately $60,000 per month, now $400,000 per month

11. $18 million Koweta Clinic completed – under budgeted amount and before deadline

12. New Housing Factory in Wetumka – purchased and remodeled old hospital for satellite tribal office

13. Building new commodity warehouse in Wetumka

14. Purchased land for new nutrition center in Okemah

15. Casino revenue from Tulsa Casino 2004 – $31,899,500 per year 2008 – $60,786,016 per year

New River Spirit Casino projected revenue $125,000,000 per year and will provide over 600 new jobs for the Creek people.

16. Funded and moved ceremonial grounds and churches to their prominent place in the Muscogee Nation

17. Re-integration program selected by Harvard University as best new program in America was selected over 159 tribes that applied.

18. New Veterans Building (Little Pentagon) program and Ken Davis, Director secured over $3,000,000, in benefits for Creek veterans.

19. New Smoke Shop and welcome center for Okmulgee Indian Community

20. Starting construction of $20 million dollar clinic in Eufaula, in the summer of 2009

21. National Council passed a law to move the Health System under the control of the Administration – February 2009

22. Raise the minimum wage to $9.25 per hour, highest in the U.S, was $6.30 per hour

23. College of the Muscogee Nation is in its third year of operation. We have purchased land and are ready to build the first building for the college

24. Created the Department of Tourism and Recreation

25. New Employee Creek Language Speaker Program – Any employee who passes the Creek Language Test receives an extra $0.50 per hour

26. Purchased a 56 passenger Trailway bus for travel of large groups

27. Purchased Fountainhead Lodge for future expansion and development

28. Now operating Fountainhead Golf Course by the Trade and Commerce Department

29. New Social Security Office in the Social Services Department

30. Now operating the TANF Program for Creek Nation

31. National Council Meetings are broadcast worldwide live, via internet

32. Paid off debt within three years, on Koweta Clinic (18 million dollars)

33. Purchased 26 acres west side of Arkansas River

34. Purchased 200 acres, Pecan Farm north of Complex

35. Purchased 17 acres, across from Tulsa Casino for parking

Monday, March 23, 2009

I learned this morning that a citizen has filed a petition for removal of the Principal Chief. The entire cost was $16, paid to the Election Board. The nine (9) allegations listed in the Petition to Remove are very comical, such as selling the Bison herd (which I never even seen) and utilizing the members of the Supreme Court for political purposes. What a shame!

I have never broken any tribal law nor have I done anything improper as an elected official in 18 years. What I am trying to do is interfere with some personal piggy banks which the money in those piggy banks actually belongs to every creek citizen, those select few are afraid of losing all their perks they were use to getting. That's why there is such a battle.

I assure you that my family is fine and will be fine after we're gone in 2012. My family and I appreciate the many letters and calls supporting my actions. Please continue to keep us in your prayers. I intend to stop all misspending and corruption in this Nation, somehow, some way. Mvto!

Chief Ellis

Letter from the Editor

Hello readers! I am glad to be back in Oklahoma, although it is always nice to experience new places and lots of new faces in a different city. Boston was great and my staff and I learned a lot at the conference.

In other news, after some confusion of authorship of a recent letter to the editor, it was confirmed that the submission of the Lawmaster letter published in last month's MNN was actually from Jacob Narcomey. While we did have a verifiable e-mail address for Mr. Narcomey, we falsely represented Mr. Lawmaster as the person responsible for the submission, when it was in fact, Mr. Narcomey. The confusion stemmed from one of the submitted letters being signed by Mr. Lawmaster who did the investigation. It was my mistake and I want to apologize for any confusion this may have caused.

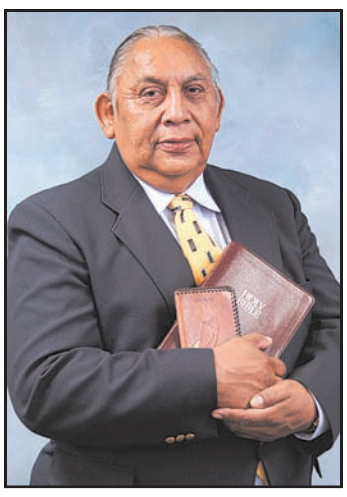
While there will be mistakes from time to time, I do want to emphasize the fact that as the official publication of the Muscogee Nation, the Muscogee Nation News will always strive to share important information with the citizens of this Nation and I like to think citizens have the right to know the good, bad and the ugly of the goings-on in their Nation. Mvto for reading!

From the Office of the Second Chief

Second Opinion

Submitted March 20, 2009

As a young boy sitting with my siblings I can remember my father telling stories by the crackling fire and this is what he told.



Second Chief Berryhill

This is a quote from the book "Myths and Tales of the Southeastern Indians" by John R. Swanton, "The Origin of Tobacco."

…There was an old man who went to the square ground of his town to take the black drink every morning and carried something to eat with him. One morning as he was eating this by the creek where he had stopped for the purpose, he felt like defecating, and therefore he went over to a log which lay at some distance. When he got there, however, he saw a pretty little plant growing. A man and a woman had lain at that place, and this plant was the result. The old man brushed the rubbish away from it and returned home. Each time he came by after that he went to it, and he took the dry lower leaves and smoked them. The people at the square ground learned of it through him and said, "That is a mighty good thing. We had better take that and smoke it." The first name of the plant was "coeuns" (haisa). After they learned of it and came to hitci ("finding") as a war name. I do not know the history of the hitci pakpagi, which is the greatest medicine there is.

(Second version)

A young man wanted to marry a certain girl very much. One time when a party to which they belonged was out she was riding a pack horse and was lost along with the man. He told her that he wanted her and would take her to his camp if she would marry him, which she consented to do. Later there was another hunt and the man went to the spot where he had first lain with the woman. He saw a very pretty plant growing there. He went back to his people and told them what he had seen. Then he showed the plant to them and told them how it had come about. They said, "We shall call it hitci, and when we smoke we shall call it the same as quum coimus (haisa)."

(Third version)

A man was courting a woman and they were seated on the ground at a certain place. Some time afterwards the man came back to the spot and saw a small weed growing up just where the woman had been sitting. He went several times until the weed got to be of some height. Now he began to care for it. When it was about a foot high he took off some leaves and smelt of them and they smelt good to him, and others he would throw into the fire, finding the odor they gave forth in burning very agreeable. He cultivated this plant until it gave forth seed. Tobacco was gotten in this manner, and since this man and woman were very happy when they were there and were very peacefully inclined toward each other tobacco has ever since been used in concluding peace and friendship among the Indian tribes.

Second Chief Alfred Berryhill

Letters to the Editor

Request for contact from Willie "Samuel" Lee Johnson

Stvngo! My name is Gregg L. Lewis and I work for Osage Land Company in Edmond, Okla. My office is currently in the process of leasing land from various Creek Nation tribal members in the Okemah, Okfuskee County, OK, areas.

I am trying to locate Willie a.k.a. Samuel Lee Johnson, who was the son of Rosie (Fixico) Deeringwater Johnson. Our last known address for Mr. Johnson was in the Mtn. Park, OK, area. If Mr. Johnson or anyone who knows his whereabouts would contact me, I would greatly appreciate it.

Many Mvtos!

Gregg L. Lewis, PO Box 20772, Oklahoma City, OK 73156, 1-800-330-8274 toll free or (405)-341-9306 in state and (405)-361-2179 cell.

In regard to March Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

The "Letters to the Editor" section of the March, 2009 issue of the Muscogee Nation News ("MNN") contained a "letter" supposedly submitted to MNN for publication by Randy Lawmaster, Criminal Investigator. The published materials were in fact gleaned from two confidential investigative reports submitted by our Prosecutor and Criminal Investigator to Chief Ellis.

In placing the reports under the heading "Letters to the Editor" you misled your readers into the false presumption that the reports were submitted by Mr. Lawmaster directly to MNN for publication. At no time has Mr. Lawmaster or anyone from the Office of the Attorney General ever released or authorized the release of the two reports to MNN or any other public outlet for publication. The reports were addressed and sent only to Chief Ellis so that appropriate action could be taken to address the housing policy violations, thus assuring fair access to housing by all citizens.

Your editorial policy plainly states "editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication." Shouldn't Muscogee Nation News also corroborate that a letter was actually submitted to the Editor of MNN by the author before publishing it as such?

Roger Wiley
Attorney General
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION NATIONAL COUNCIL
Session Palen - Cahkepohkaken (15)
2008-2009

Legislative

Continued from March A3

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-2-1) NCA 09-019, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST AND ELDERLY CREEK CITIZEN SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE** ($821.23)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **TERRIE ANDERSON** AND **PAULA WILLITS**.

ABSTAINING WAS REPRESENTATIVE **CHERRAH QUIETT**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (17-7-1) TR 09-003, A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF BRENT HALE TO SERVE ON THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPONSOR: **LENA WIND**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DAVID NICHOLS; KEEPER JOHNSON; JAMES JENNINGS; CHERRAH QUIETT; STEVE BRUNER; PAULA WILLITS** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

ABSTAINING WAS REPRESENTATIVE **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE **JANUARY 31, EXTRAORDINARY SESSION**.

JANUARY 31, EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-1-0) TR 09-011, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH COMERICA FOR SERVICES TO RIVER SPIRIT AND CREEK NATION TULSA CASINO SPONSOR: **STEVE BRUNER**

ABSTAINING WAS REPRESENTATIVE **BILL FIFE**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-1-0) NCA 09-020, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 33, THE NATION'S COMMERCIAL CODE, CLARIFYING CERTAIN SECTIONS FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES SPONSOR: **STEVE BRUNER**

VOTING NO WAS REPRESENTATIVE **KARA MEDINA**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) NCA 09-021, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING TITLE 37, §2-203 TO DEFINE NET REVENUES WITH RESPECT TO GAMING OPERATIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISTRIBUTION TO THE NATION AND REPEALING THE TRAVEL PLAZA ESTABLISHMENT AND FINANCING FUND SPONSOR: **STEVE BRUNER**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (18-7-0) NCA 09-022, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO ENTER INTO A LOAN AND RELATED AGREEMENTS FOR A LOAN OF UP TO 195 MILLION DOLLARS FROM BANK OF AMERICA, NA, WELLS FARGO BANK, NA AND OTHER PARTIES TO FUND THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE RIVER SPIRIT CASINO AND PARKING FACILITY AND APPROVING CERTAIN LEGAL PROVISIONS SPONSOR: **STEVE BRUNER**

VOTING NO WERE REPRESENTATIVES: **ROGER BARNETT, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, BILL FIFE, SHIRLENE ADE, RON CLEGHORN** AND **KARA MEDINA**.

FEBRUARY 28, REGULAR SESSION

REPRESENTATIVE **DARRELL PROCTOR** WAS EXCUSED. REPRESENTATIVES **KEEPER JOHNSON** AND **KARA MEDINA** WERE ABSENT.

VETO MESSAGE:

• MOTION TO OVERRIDE VETO FAILED (14-9-0) NCA 09-003, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE KELLYVILLE INDIAN COMMUNITY BUILDING **RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS**

VOTING NO WERE REPRESENTATIVES: **PETE BEAVER, DAVID NICHOLS, TERRIE ANDERSON, JAMES JENNINGS, THOMAS YAHOLA, CHERRAH QUIETT, STEVE BRUNER, PAULA WILLITS** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) TR 09-006, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CUSTOMER AGREEMENT WITH WILDBLUE COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING COMMUNICATION AND INTERNET NEEDS FOR THE YEAGER HEAD START SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) TR 09-014, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE INTEGRATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT SPONSOR: **ADAM JONES III**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) TR 09-015, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE ARKANSAS EDUCATIONAL TELEVISION NETWORK (AETN) TO USE THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SEAL SPONSOR: **SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **PETE BEAVER**

• FAILED ON THE FLOOR TO ADOPT (9-13-0) TR 09-016, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE ABSENTEE COUNTERS FOR THE SPECIAL ELECTION ON MAY 2, 2009 SPONSOR: **DAVID NICHOLS**

VOTING NO WERE REPRESENTATIVES: **DAVID HILL, LARRY CAHWEE, ROGER BARNETT, ADAM JONES III, SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, BILL FIFE, CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS, SHIRLENE ADE, RON CLEGHORN, SAM ALEXANDER** AND **ROBERT HUFFT**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) TR 09-018, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN AT&T WIRELESS SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR WIRELESS INTERNET SERVICES SPONSOR: **DAVID NICHOLS**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 09-009, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TRIBAL DRIVEWAYS PROGRAM SPONSOR: **DAVID HILL** ($149,639.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 09-023, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE SPECIAL ACADEMIC/EXTRA CURRICULAR PROGRAM SPONSOR: **JAMES JENNINGS ($30,000.00)**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (12-9-1) NCA 09-024, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN SPONSORING THE SECOND ANNUAL STICKBALL TOURNAMENT HOSTED BY THE SIGMA NU ALPHA GAMMA (SOCIETY OF NATIVE AMERICAN GENTLEMEN) FRATERNITY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **S. ADE; R. BARNETT; S. JAYNE-DORNAN; T. SCOTT** ($2,000.00)

VOTING NO WERE REPRESENTATIVES: **LARRY CAHWEE, PETE BEAVER, DAVID NICHOLS, TERRIE ANDERSON, JAMES JENNINGS, STEVE BRUNER, PAULA WILLITS, ROBERT HUFFT** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

ABSTAINING WAS REPRESENTATIVE **CHERRAH QUIETT.**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 09-025, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE TRIBAL SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT 2009 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET SPONSOR: **TERRIE ANDERSON** ($87,435.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 09-026, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE TRIBAL SOCIAL SERVICES - NATURAL DISASTER PROGRAM 2009 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET SPONSOR: **TERRIE ANDERSON** ($75,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 09-027, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE TRIBAL SOCIAL SERVICES - SCHOOL CLOTHING PROGRAM 2009 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET SPONSOR: **TERRIE ANDERSON** ($37,361.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-1) NCA 09-029, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE EUCHEE LANGUAGE PROGRAM PRESERVATION PROJECT FOR AN AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM SPONSOR: **LARRY CAHWEE**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **R. BARNETT; R. HUFFT; D. HILL** ($60,000.00)

ABSTAINING WAS REPRESENTATIVE **CHERRAH QUIETT**.

• FAILED ON FLOOR TO ADOPT (8-14-0) NCA 09-030, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE ELECTION BOARD TO CONDUCT A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS SPONSOR: **DAVID NICHOLS** ($75,577.46)

VOTING NO WERE REPRESENTATIVES: **DAVID HILL, LARRY CAHWEE, ROGER BARNETT, ADAM JONES III, SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, BILL FIFE, CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS, SHIRLENE ADE, RON CLEGHORN, CHERRAH QUIETT, SAM ALEXANDER** AND **ROBERT HUFFT**.

• APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 09-031, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 11, §6-403 ENTITLED "VIOLATORS - INDIVIDUALS" SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **T. YAHOLA; C. QUIETT**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (20-2-0) NCA 09-033, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE KELLYVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS SPONSOR: **LARRY CAHWEE** ($5,270.00)

VOTING NO WERE REPRESENTATIVES: **TERRIE ANDERSON** AND **CHERRAH QUIETT**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (16-4-2) NCA 09-034, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) STUDENT IN PARTICIPATING IN THE NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED PEOPLE TO PEOPLE STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAM SPONSOR: **ADAM JONES III**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN** ($866.75)

VOTING NO WERE REPRESENTATIVES: **TERRIE ANDERSON, JAMES JENNINGS, PAULA WILLITS** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

ABSTAINING WERE REPRESENTATIVES: **CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS** AND **CHERRAH QUIETT**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (19-3-0) NCA 09-039, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO SPONSOR A PORTRAIT OF MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN AND POET LAUREATE **ALEXANDER POSEY** TO BE DISPLAYED IN THE OKLAHOMA STATE CAPITOL SPONSOR: **SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN** ($3,500.00)

VOTING NO WERE REPRESENTATIVES: **CHERRAH QUIETT, PAULA WILLITS** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

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Week of March 30 – April 4, 2009 proclaimed U.S. Census Awareness Week

by Thompson Gouge
MCN Public Relations Rep.

OKMULGEE — The 2010 Decennial Census plays an essential role in the social and economic successes enjoyed by citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The work of 201 Decennial Census requires advanced planning, training, implementation and promotion in order to obtain a complete and accurate count of all citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) N tion.

U.S. Census Awareness Week will be observed to recognize the importance of the 2010 Decennial Census and the contribution that it plays in securing that citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation are adequately represented at all levels of tribal, federal and state government, and that the Nation receives its fair share of our nation's resources.

The theme of the S. Census Awareness Week 2009 is "Stand-Up and Be Counted" which reflects the enthusiasm that the people of the Nation and the U.S. Census Bureau have in striving for a complete unt of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Since 1790, and every decade thereafter, our nation has conducted a constitutionally mandated census to determine the number of people living within the United States and its territories. The effort started with Census workers going out on horseback and visiting every household they came across. Over time, census forms have asked different questions and been conducted using different methods. The 2010 form is among the shortest in history and needs only be put in the mail box after it's been filled out.

Census data is used to ensure equal representation for all residents at the federal, state and local levels of government. Census data also affects how more than $300 billion in federal funds are distributed to tribal, state and local governments each year. Those funds are used for schools, transportation, public health services and disaster relief agencies. Community organizations also use census data to determine the needs of their residents and for seeking resources to meet those needs.

Census questionnaires will be delivered to residents in March of 2010. The form will only consist of 10 questions asking basic information to give the Census Bureau the best portrait of America. The whole form should only take about 10 minutes to fill out. The final step is to simply put the census form back in the mail, and that's it.

The 2010 Census builds on the success of previous Censuses and is the best planned and most researched Census ever. In 2000, 67% of people living in the United States' boundaries responded by mail to the Census questionnaire. That means that nearly one-third of people did not. Given what's at stake for our communities the Census Bureau is starting early to raise awareness and is looking to tribal, state and local officials and community leaders to partner with to ensure a complete and accurate count.

Data collected from the 2010 Census is always confidential and safeguarded. The 2010 Census will produce accurate, relevant statistics about the nation's economy and people, but it is your information that is collected to produce these statistics. Federal law protects your information, and policies and safeguards are in place to help ensure the confidentiality of your information.

Preparing early for the 2010 Census is a great way for local leaders to learn the makeup of their communities and to determine the needs of their residents.

"Therefore I, A.D. Ellis, Principal Chief, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, hereby proclaim the week of March 30 – April 4, 2009 as U.S. Census Awareness Week, recognizing the value of a complete and accurate Decennial Census. I call upon all citizens to support and promote The 2010 Census by recognizing that a complete and accurate Muscogee Creek Nation population count is essential for the Nation continued success," the proclamation stated.

Roots

Continued from A1

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis also spoke to the crowd about his passion for farming. After being born and raised into farm life, Ellis says he wouldn't have it any other way. "I don't make a living at it for sure, but for the people that do, it takes a smart man to make a living on a farm,"

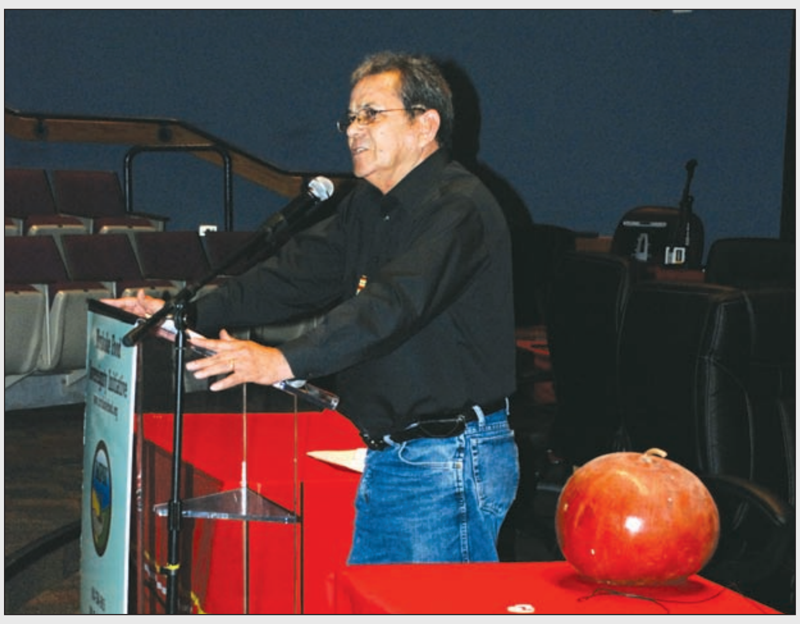
"We always had a big garden and my mom would send my down to the creek to pick different leaves, poke mainly. I didn't know what they were, but she knew what it took to get through the cold days," Ellis said.

Ellis went on to say that not all of the food he raises is for eating, but simply for the love of what he does. After a large crop of various gourds sprang up on year, Ellis said he called the Johnson O'Malley Program and asked, "Do you have any kids that want to take these gourds?" Two days later, five or six trucks-full of students from the area loaded up the goods from the field. "For a long time they would come to my office with those painted-up gourds and give them back to me," Ellis said.

"It's a joy to think about the homegrown food that we have, Ellis siad.

After visiting his garden and noticing a few tomatoes and potatoes, however, some have been skeptic about the Chief's selection in food items such as broom corn, however, he responds to this with a simple answer.

"I just like to watch it grow. It's really getting back to the basics about what you can get out of the ground. A lot of people don't realize what it takes to grow your own food," Ellis said.



918.683.1825 Open 24 hours 3420 W. Peak Boulevard Muskogee, OK 74401 www.creeknationcasino.net

WEEK OF FOOTBALL

APRIL 6th beginning 10:00 AM
Free health screening for ages 21 and above, located in the Bingo hall. Paul Thompson, a former University of Oklahoma football quarterback will be present for a free meet and greet autograph session during the health screening.

APRIL 8TH - HEISMAN WINNERS
FORMER UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA FOOTBALL PLAYERS
JASON WHITE - STEVE OWENS - BILLY SIMS
*PLUS LIVE REMOTE FROM SPORTS ANIMAL W/ AL JERKENS
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

FREE HEALTH SCREENING & MEET PAUL THOMPSON APRIL 6th
SPORTS ANIMAL & MEET HEISMAN WINNERS APRIL 8th

CREEK NATION Casino MUSCOGEE

easter SPECIALS

EASTER SPECIAL HOT SEAT DRAWINGS
Noon - 4:00 PM

EASTER TOURNAMENT
4:30 PM - 9:00 PM

BINGO EASTER SPECIAL
A single winner on any game will choose an Easter Egg for a bonus prize.

EASTER BLACKJACK
Begins at opening
The first 100 players with a same suit Blackjack or a Straight or better on 3 Card Poker or a flush or better on Ultimate Hold' em will choose an Easter Egg.

april 12th

Patrons catch River Spirit fever

RIVER SPIRIT Casino

A GRAND AFFAIR

Eager patrons filled the front steps at the much anticipated ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday. The crowd braved a bitter, windy morning to be among the first try out the Creek Casino. In addition to the many patrons, officials from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Association, a representative of Tulsa's Mayor's Office and the Tulsa Chamber of Commerce made an appearance.

Principal Chief Ellis was all smiles as he made comments and reminded the crowd of the cooperative effort made by all those invovled in the process. He related that the tribe holds approximately 140 riverside acres and hinted that this was just a taste of things to come.

Those representing Tulsa echoed the importance of creating jobs in the face of a national economic crisis. With tribes striving to better serve their people, a positive side effect is that Oklahoma is still growing during the turmoil.

With something for everyone, the River Spirit could very well become the place to be. A sports bar with plenty of screens to watch your favorite games, upscale steak-house dining with wine and live piano music, the largest buffet in the state, the Mystic River lounge sporting the latest technology and display of free live entertainment, all combine under one roof to make the River Spirit Casino the place to be.

Just to give an idea of how big and bold this new gaming, food and music hot spot will be, over 600 new employees will be hired just to keep it running smoothly. Not only will the casino be one of the leaders in the in the gaming industry in the State, but it will also help to give a boost to the Tulsa economy here as well.

One of the most unique aspects to this facility apart from its sheer grandeur and size, is the subtle cultural flavor one can here. How fitting that Muscogee (Creeks) have built next to the river, a sentiment of the history of the nation. The river artistically runs throughout the Casino from the carpet to lighting, the river and naturalistic metaphors are on display. On display in the sports bar are photographs of Muscogee (Creek) stickball sticks. The heritage is continued in photographs and sculptures along the walls of the Elements Steakhouse and Grill.

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

No sports bar is complete with out a stick ball section. These photographs line the wall of the Scoreboard Bar and Grill and add a subtle stamp of Creek culture to the Casino. These photographs are joined by contemporary sports memorbilla to create a harmoniously mix sports scene for any fan.

The crowd applauds and stands as Principal Chief A.D. Ellis approaches the podium to make comments at the ribbon cutting ceremony.

L to R, Eli Grayson, Bill and Wanda Morrison are pictured enjoying the opening day. From California and everywhere in between Citizens are on tap for the ribbon cutting ceremony.

Pictured above is Creek Council House Museum Director Ted Isham standing beside one of many bronze castes depicting traditional Muscogee (Creek) culture. These works of art are found in the Elements Steak house & Grill.

Hungry customers visit the Visions Buffet within the River Spirit eager to try out the this highly praised Super Buffet capable of serving 400.

Today's Trail of Tears:

• The legacy of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Part 2

by Dan Cross
Keetoowah Cherokee Treatment Services

TULSA — Last [issue, month, whatever is applicable] we examined a case where a young woman, Sara, found herself pregnant after a fun loving fling with a young man. Her child was diagnosed as having Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, and she her son, Sam, faced a lifetime of misery. We learned that Fetal Alcohol and Drug Syndromes are totally preventable, yet Native Americans are 33 times more likely to suffer from it than White babies. Finally we heard a call to action from treatment and prevention advocate Shirlene Ade, National Council Representative, Tukvpvtce District, who said, "It is time that we all do what is necessary to help ourselves, those we love, and those we know get the help they need."

You may be wondering whether a child you know may have FAS, Steven Dowshen, MD, states that the signs and symptoms of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome are:

- low birth weight
- small head circumference
- failure to thrive
- developmental delay
- organ dysfunction
- facial abnormalities, including smaller eye openings, flattened cheekbones, and indistinct philtrum (an underdeveloped groove between the nose and the upper lip)
- epilepsy
- poor coordination/fine motor skills
- poor socialization skills, such as difficulty building and maintaining friendships and relating to groups
- lack of imagination or curiosity
- learning difficulties, including poor memory, inability to understand abstract concepts such as time and money, poor language comprehension, poor problem-solving skills
- poor understanding of sequential instructions
- behavioral problems, including hyperactivity, inability to concentrate, social withdrawal, stubbornness, impulsiveness, and anxiety

Children with Fetal Alcohol Effects display the same symptoms, but to a lesser degree. A child may have any mixture of these symptoms to varying degrees depending upon:

- When the mother drank or used drugs during the development of the fetus. Earlier development produces greater physical as well as mental abnormalities.
- How much the mother drank or used drugs during the development of the fetus.
- How long the mother drank or used drugs during the development of the fetus.

Cheryl A. Schroeder, Ed.D., Creative Consultants, Inc., states,

Forty-four percent of women who drink heavily during pregnancy will have a child with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. Of the other 56%, many will have Fetal Alcohol Effects … including less severe learning and behavioral difficulties. A few will be apparently normal. A combination of factors determines whether the exposed child will be afflicted with FAS or FAE. First of all is the genetic makeup of the mother and the fetus. It has been demonstrated that many members of certain populations have similar genetic compositions. Research has suggested, for example, that some individuals of Native American descent do not make enough of an enzyme necessary in the breakdown of alcohol in the liver or some are lacking that enzyme all together. Therefore, these individuals would be at genetic risk of passing this trait onto the fetus.

When exposed to even slight amounts of alcohol such fetuses could be affected, even for short periods of time.

Sara's son, Sam, started kindergarten and immediately started having behavior problems. Sara had noticed some lack of impulse control and what appeared to be a disregard for her instruction and redirection. He just seemed to do whatever popped into his head regardless of what she said or did. She would get quite stern, even spank or threaten him. Still, he almost seemed to defy her.

In the classroom, his behavior worsened. There was too much going on. Everywhere he looked something distracted his attention, the bulletin board, the decorations, the other children, all too much to take in and pay attention to a teacher. Often these children are misdiagnosed as Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) when they get into a classroom environment. But more often they are just viewed as oppositional or defiant.

Often children would rather appear "bad" than "dumb", Shelton says, so they accept the erroneous stigmatization of being bad. They might find their acceptance among other "bad" kids or in gangs. This stigma is often generalized to a broad spectrum of Native American children due to the greater prevalence of FAE and FAS among them as compared to other ethnic groups (see Burd studies below).

According to studies conducted for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), incidences of FAS per 10,000 total births for different ethnic groups were as follows: Asians 0.3, Hispanics 0.8, whites 0.9, blacks 6.0, and Native Americans 29.9. [CHAVEZ, G.F.; Cordero, J.F.; & Becerra, J.E. Leading major congenital malformations among minority groups in the United States, 1981-1986. Journal of the American Medical Association 261(2):205-209, 1989.] These statistics indicate that FAS is 33 times more likely to occur in a Native American baby than a Caucasian baby, 99.6 times more for Asians, 37 times more than Hispanics, and 5 times more than Blacks. The combined conclusion of ten studies of FAS concludes:

The prevalence of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome in the Indian and Native population of the United States and Canada was consistently high across the ten studies…

Burd, L. & Moffatt, M.E. Epidemiology of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome in American Indians, Alaskan Natives, and Canadian Aboriginal Peoples: A Review of the Literature. Public Health Reports 1994, 109, 688-93.

Dan Cross, Keetoowah Cherokee Treatment Services, Tulsa, observes,

The differences in the prevalence of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome between ethnic groups is not because Native Americans are more likely to get FAS or FDS. It is because they are more likely to drink or use drugs while pregnant. While FA/DS can result with even the slightest use during pregnancy, far too many young women have addictions to drugs or alcohol that cause them to make very poor choices. With treatment, this is totally preventable."

The following are Native American treatment centers in or near the Muscogee Creek Nation service area:

- MCN Behavioral Health Services - 1313 E. 20th Okmulgee (918) 758-1910
- Koweta Indian Health Facility (MCN) - 31870 East Hwy 51, Coweta (918)279-3200
- Indian Health Care Resource Center - 550 S. Peoria Avenue, Tulsa 918-588-1900
- Keetoowah Cherokee Treatment Services – 2727 E Admiral Pl, Tulsa, I-244 at Delaware, 918-835-3017

In the next issue we will examine the impact that Fetal Alcohol/Drug Syndrome makes upon tribal nations.

"A family affair of the heart"

by Sharon Iverson, RD/LD
Okemah Diabetes Program

OKMULGEE — Larry Cooper is one of 85 participants in the Muscogee Creek Nation's Healthy Heart Program. This is Larry's story of how the program has improved his heart health.

Larry and Elvie have been married for 54 years. They have 3 boys, 9 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Here is what Larry says about the Healthy Heart Program.

My blood pressure and my diabetes are controlled. I feel better and have more energy. The Healthy Heart Program helped me to set goals for my eating and exercise. The staff and my wife supported me in making changes.

When I started the Healthy Heart Program, my exercise consisted of working around home. I started walking 10 minutes at a time, 3 times a day. I increased my walking to 15 to 20 minutes. Now I walk an hour at a time. Sometimes I walk in my pasture and other times I walk at the mall or Walmart. With regular walking, I sleep better and my body functions better.

I eat healthier. I eat less fried foods, biscuits and gravy. I pay more attention to food labels. Eating smaller portions more often has worked well for me. My wife makes healthy eating possible. After meat is smoked, grilled or baked, she slices it and freezes in individual servings for sandwiches. She buys frozen vegetables without salt and often makes her own bread. We found a whole wheat bread with added omega-3s that we like to eat.

I enrolled in the Healthy Heart Program in January 2007. The classes provided good information and the healthy heart team answered my specific questions. The program has been good for me and for my wife. We have both lost weight. I met my goal to lose 7% of my starting weight.

If you are interested in the Healthy Heart Program, contact the Diabetes Program at your clinic or call Kara Lee at 1-800-782-8291, ext 253.

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918-542-1786
quapawcounselingservices.com

HEALTHNOTES

Get to know your Registered Dietitian

by Mary Parnell, RD/LD, CDE
Okmulgee Indian Health Center

OKMULGEE — What do you think when your provider refers you to a Registered Dietitian (RD)? "I'm going to have to give up my favorite foods." "I'm going to have to eat foods that I don't like." "I'm going to be told to buy foods I can't afford." If you have diabetes, your provider may refer you to the RD at your local MCN clinic. The RD will talk with you about your eating habits, physical activity and other factors affecting your eating. With this information the RD will make recommendations for changes in your eating habits.

Every March the American Dietetic Association celebrates National Nutrition Month. The event focuses on making wise food choices and developing sound eating and exercise habits. Registered Dietitian Day is Wednesday, March 11. This special day recognizes the registered dietitian as your food and nutrition authority. Think of him or her as the "go to" person for nutrition advice.

Registered dietitians have completed a Bachelor's degree. After graduation, they get specialized clinical training in a dietetic internship. The dietetic internship provides practical experience in patient care and food service. After completing their clinical practice training, they are eligible to take the 4-hour registration exam. If the individual passes this exam, he or she becomes a "Registered Dietitian" or RD.

Trust your clinic's registered dietitian to provide reliable nutrition information and to promote healthy lifestyle changes. The registered dietitian at your MCN clinic can be reached at the contact number listed (Clinic Location, Phone and Registered Dietitian): Eufaula Health Center at (918)689-2547 Crystal Kaiser, Koweta Health Center at (918) 279-3200 Christian Dixon, Okemah CNCH Hospital and Clinic at (918) 623-1242 Sharon Iverson, Okmulgee Health Center at (918) 756-9911 Mary Parnell and the Sapulpa Health Center at (918) 224-9310 Melissa Scheef.

Sugar substitutes: the Aspartame controversy

by Tamara Lambert, RN
Eufaula Diabetes Educator/Coordinator

EUFAULA — The artificial sweetener aspartame has been the subject of controversy regarding its safety since its initial approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in 1974. Aspartame, which can be found in most diet pop, sugarless chewing gum, and Sweet-n-Low, is 180 times sweeter and is a table top sweetener in most homes.

The controversy stems from many web-based internet sites that claim that aspartame consumption is responsible for many cases of lupus, multiple sclerosis, vision problems, headaches, fatigue, Alzheimer's disease, and brain tumors, Another reported claim by those considered experts in weight loss fields is that aspartame contributes to weight gain and obesity due to spikes in ones insulin level. The argument holds that the taste of sweetness or perhaps some chemical breakdown of aspartame causes the body to secrete excess insulin even though aspartame does not contain calories. If this is true this would lead to insulin resistance and eventually to Type II Diabetes. Although most scientific studies have found no harmful effects of aspartame ingestion, some have reported effects related with very high dosages of aspartame and more recent studies have shown that aspartame does not increase glucose or insulin blood levels.

The acting director of FDA's division of health effects evaluation reports that some substances in aspartame could be considered toxic at high doses.

To be continued...

Why Omega-3 fatty acids are good for your heart

by Crystal Kaiser, MS, RD, LD
Eufaula Diabetes Dietitian

OKMULGEE — Maintaining a healthy heart is something we all should think about to prevent heart disease. Omega-3 fatty acids can help prevent the risk for heart disease. Omega-3 fatty acids protect against arrhythmias and can increase the immune system. Consuming enough in our diet can be challenging. The foods that have Omega-3 fatty acids are flax seed and fish, especially fatty fish such as salmon, tuna, sardines, herring, and mackerel.

Other fish have Omega-3 fatty acids it is just in less amounts. The American Heart Association recommends consuming at least two servings of fish weekly. Flax seed is the richest source. Omega-3 fatty acids are also found in canola oil, soybean oil, and nuts, especially walnuts. Tofu is also a good source.

Flax seed can be bought as whole seeds, ground seeds, milled seeds, and flax seed flour. Flax seed can be used in recipes like breads, pancakes mixes, muffins, etc. Milled flax seed can also be mixed in foods like oatmeal.

Flax seed is also a good source of fiber, gluten free and does not have sugar, cholesterol, or salt. Also look for food items at the grocery store with flax seed in them like energy bars, cereals, breads, pancake, and waffle mixes. Look for some of these items at the grocery store and start shopping heart healthy.

HUD - 184 Native American
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PBS series to spotlight Native American perspective April 13 - May 11

Media Release
Public Broadcast System

OKMULGEE — From PBS's acclaimed history series, AMERICAN EXPERIENCE, in association with Native American Public Telecommunications (NAPT), comes WE SHALL REMAIN, a ground-breaking mini-series and provocative multi-media project that establishes Native history as an essential part of American history. Five 90-minute documentaries spanning three hundred years tell the story of pivotal moments in U.S. history from the Native American perspective including the premiere on PBS on Mon., April 13, at 9 a.m., with "After the Mayflower" followed by "Tecumseh's Vision" on April 20, the "Trial of Tears" on April 27, "Geronimo" on May 4 and ending with "Wounded Knee" on May 11.

Beginning in the 1600s with the Wampanoags, who used their alliance with the English to strengthen their position in Southern New England, and ending with the bold new leaders of the 1970s, who harnessed the momentum of the Civil Rights Movement to forge a pan-Indian identity, WE SHALL REMAIN upends two-dimensional stereotypes of American Indians as simply ferocious warriors or peaceable lovers of the land.

Chris Eyre, director of the first three episodes of WE SHALL REMAIN, has been involved with the series from its onset. "You can't understand America in the 21st century if you don't understand the Native experience," he says. "What connects these five films is the resolve of their characters. This country is founded on people striving, being tenacious and moving forward… this is a look at that, through Native eyes."

"By asking people to share their experiences, we are opening up a creative opportunity for a population that is underrepresented in American media. I hope that these participants' voices, and the stories we are telling on other platforms, will come together to create a mosaic of the Native American experience," says Sharon Grimberg, executive producer of WE SHALL REMAIN.

For more information, visit: pbs.org/weshallremain.

Social Security Assistance Program is on the move

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Pictured above is the new location of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Social Security Assistance Program situated directly behind the Social Services building.

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Security Program has moved locations. The new building is located directly behind Social Services across the street from the Housing Building on the MCN complex in Okmulgee.

Lillian Thomas will head up the program as the Social Security Liaison, aided by Secretary Kizzie Green and Meske Wind as the Intake Specialist for the Department.

For more information on the services offered by the social security assistance program, please contact the office at (918) 756 - 3093.

Integrated Resource Management conducting tribal survey

Media Release
MCN Integrated Resource Management

OKMULGEE — Do you have an opinion on the tribe's natural and cultural resources or issues regarding them? If yes, then here is your chance to voice your opinion in a useful and meaningful manner.

The responses garnered from this survey will be compiled and placed into the Integrated Resource Management Plan or IRMP, which will aid the tribe in preserving and utilizing natural and cultural resources found on tribal land.

Participants will have until the end of June to complete the survey and mail it in or drop it off at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex in the Tribal Affairs office.

For questions regarding this survey, please contact Joshua Castleman at jcastleman@muscogeenation-nsn.gov or via telephone at (918) 732-7706. Surveys should be mailed to: Joshua Castleman, Muscogee (Creek) Nation IRMP Project Coordinator, P.O. Box 580 Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Photo courtesy of Joshua Castleman

Pictured above is a pond located on tribal property near the town of Hanna, Okla.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation (IRMP) Survey

Community or City: ____________________ **Date:** ______________

1) Are you concerned with current or future development around traditional Creek churches and/or ceremonial grounds?

___Yes ___No

2) Concerning traditional Creek churches and/or ceremonial grounds:

___ Would like the tribe to purchase available land surrounding

___Would like the tribe to purchase the surrounding land, as well as the churches and grounds themselves.

___ Leave things the way they are.

3) Do you hunt, fish or gather on tribal land?

___Yes ___No

4) Did you know that enrolled tribal members are allowed to hunt, fish and gather on **some** of the tribe's land?

___Yes ___No

5) Would you like to see tribal recreational (hunting, fishing, hiking) areas created?

___Yes ___No

6) Would you like to see tribal hunting and gathering codes/laws developed to promote preservation and better harvests for tribal members?

___Yes ___No

7) Are you concerned with loss of plant gathering sites?

___Yes ___No

8) What is your primary use or interest in tribal land?

____ Gathering medicinal plants ___ Gathering/harvesting wild food

___ Hunting ___ Fishing

___ Hiking/Walking ___ I Don't use tribal land

9) On a scale of 0 to 10, how concerned are you with global warming? With zero (0) meaning not concerned at all and ten (10) being the most concerned.

Please circle one: 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

10) Do you think global warming is . . .

___ Human induced ___ Natural ___ Human and natural ___ A hoax

11) Would you like to see the tribe pursue (or make more available) the use of renewable energies and green housing? (Choose all that apply)

___Yes, for the complex ___Yes, for tribally built housing

___Yes, for non-tribally built housing ___ No

12) Do you feel that there is a need for a food development project/garden in your community?

___ Yes ___ No___ Not Sure

13) Are you concerned with air quality within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundaries or within your community?

___Yes ___No ___Not Sure

14) Which of the following water/sewer resources in your community are you concerned about? (Check all that apply)

___Wells/Groundwater ___City/Rural water ___ Septic

___Lagoon ___None

15) Are you concerned with noise pollution or light pollution?

Choose all that apply

___Yes, light pollution only ___Yes, noise pollution only

___Yes both light and noise pollution ___No ___Not Sure

16) Should the tribe create a recycling/solid waste drop off center in your community?

___ Yes ___ No

17) Please share any additional comments and/or concerns that you have by writing them on a separate sheet of paper.

MCN Social Services and Food Distribution Field Schedule

Coweta	Community Center 8:30 - 11 a.m.	2nd Tuesday of the Month
Glenpool	Community Center 9:00 - 10 a.m.	2nd Wednesday of the Month
Bristow	Community Center 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.	2nd Thursday of the Month
Eufaula	Community Center 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.	3rd Tuesday of the Month
Sapulpa	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	3rd Wednesday of the Month
Checotah	Community Center 9:00 - 11 a.m.	3rd Thursday of the Month
Weleetka	Community Center 9:00 - 10 a.m.	4th Tuesday of the Month
Okemah	Community Center 9:00 - 10 a.m.	4th Wednesday of the Month
Holdenville	Community Center 9:00 - 11 a.m.	4th Thursday of the Month

Benefit Indian taco sale set for April 11

Media Release
Wetumka Indian Community

WETUMKA — A benefit Indian taco sale will be held for Muscogee (Creek) citizen Gail Moore and husband Ken. The couple recently lost their restaurant, the Round Up, in Weleetka, Okla., due to a fire which resulted in a total loss.

The taco sale will be held at the Northside Community Center in Wetumka on Sat., April 11 beginning at 11 a.m., and lasting until all tacos are sold. The sale is sponsored by Pinky's Indian Tacos and all proceeds will go to the couple. For more information, contact "Pinky" at (405) 452 - 3488 or (405) 380 - 2088. For those interested in making a donation, an account on behalf of the Moores has been set up at Citizen's Security Bank in Weleetka. Call (405) 786 - 2216 or 1-800-486 - 2216

Benefit pool tournament and food sale

Media Release
Okmulgee Indian Community

OKMULGEE — Benefit fund-raisers are scheduled for J. D. Hill to defray medical cost incurred. Fri., April 10, beginning at 7 p.m., a benefit pool tournament will be held at Mose Tavern located at 1002 Plainview in Okmulgee. Entry fee for the single-elimination tournament will be $7.00., with first and second place receiving trophies.

A food sale will also be held Sat., April 18, beginning at 1 p.m., along with a benefit bingo starting shortly afterward at 3 p.m. For more information, call Sandy at (918) 951-4456.

Indian taco and multi-family garage sale

Media Release
William Gouge

OKMULGEE — A multi-family garage sale from 7a.m., - 3 p.m., will be held April 17-18 at 1310 N. Alabama in Okmulgee.

In conjunction with the garage sale, an Indian taco sale will be held beginning at 11 a.m., and lasting until 3 p.m., each day. Large tacos will be $7.00 and drinks will be priced at $1.00. Local delivery will be available and advanced orders may be placed by calling (918) 756 - 4272.

Creek singing and food fund-raiser

Media Release
Mary Kelly

TULSA — A food fund-raiser will begin at 4 p.m., with a night of Creek singing following at the Oakhurst Indian Fellowship beginning at 7 p.m., on Sat., April 18. The church is located at 6130 S. 58th W., Ave., in Tulsa.

For more informaiton, please contact Mary Kelly at (918) 636 - 8394.

"A Spirit of Excellence" prayer day

Media Release
Spirit Wind

MOUNDS — "A Spirit of Excellence" prayer day for the Nations will be held Sat., April 11 from 10-2 p.m., at Morning Star/Two Rivers located at 221st S., on Hwy 75, 4.25 miles easr on HEctorville Rd., in Mounds. The event will feature Native dress and singing, tribal stories and

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Local Hanna student named Academic-All Stater

Media Release
Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence

OKLAHOMA CITY — Kelsey Proctor, a senior at Hanna High School, has been named a 2009 Academic All-State Scholar by the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence.

The Hanna resident is among only 100 public high school seniors in Oklahoma selected for the prestigious honor and the first student from Hanna High School to receive the award. Each of this year's All-Staters will receive a $1,000 merit-based scholarship and a medallion. The All-Staters will be recognized at the foundation's 23rd annual Academic Awards Banquet on Saturday, May 16, at the new Embassy Suites Hotel and Conference Center, 2501 Conference Drive in Norman.

Proctor is her class valedictorian and an Advanced Placement Scholar. She has served as editor of the Hanna High School newspaper and yearbook, president of 4-H Club and secretary of Student Council. She has also served as captain of the Muscogee Creek Nation Challenge Bowl Team and played varsity basketball and softball. A National Native American Youth Initiative delegate, Proctor directed a documentary film for the Mvskoke Language Institute. In addition, she has taken courses at the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics Regional Center and the Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology. She has received a full-tuition scholarship to attend Oklahoma Baptist University, where she plans to major in pre-medicine.

The 2009 class of Academic All-Staters were selected from 561 nominations statewide, hailing from 82 different schools in 71 Oklahoma school districts. The 2009 Academic All-State Class is the 23rd to be selected by the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence. Since the award program's inception in 1987, some 2,300 high school seniors from 297 school districts have been named All-State scholars.

David L. Boren, chairman and founder of the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence, describes the selection of the scholars as "Oklahoma's most rigorous academic competition." To be nominated for Academic All-State, students must meet one of the following criteria: an American College Test (ACT) composite score of at least 30; a Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) combined critical reading and math score of at least 1340; or be selected as a semi-finalist for a National Merit, National Achievement or National Hispanic Scholarship.

This year's All-Staters scored an average of 33 on the ACT, with four recipients scoring a perfect 36.

In addition, 43 of this year's All-Staters are National Merit semifinalists, while one is a National Hispanic semifinalist and one is a National Achievement semifinalist.

Academic All-Staters are nominated by their principals or superintendents and are selected on the basis of academic achievement, extracurricular activities and community involvement, as well as an essay submitted by each nominee. The selection committee, which is chaired by Oklahoma Supreme Court Justice Marian P. Opala, works independently of all other foundation activities. The committee members are a diverse group of business, education and civic leaders. Academic All-State alumni and former Medal for Excellence winners also sit on the selection committee.

The Academic Awards Banquet is open to the public, with admission priced at $50. The awards ceremony will be televised statewide by OETA, the Oklahoma Educational Television Authority, at 8 p.m. Saturday, May 23. For more information, call the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence office at (405) 236-0006 or visit its Web site at www.ofe.org.

Founded in 1985, the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence is a statewide, non-profit organization dedicated to recognizing and encouraging academic excellence in Oklahoma's public schools. Through its Academic Awards Program, the foundation has provided more than $3.6 million in scholarships and cash awards to honor outstanding graduating seniors as Academic All-Staters and exceptional educators as Medal for Excellence winners. Other foundation programs include a Local Education Foundation Outreach Program; Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute Fellowships and Electronic Field Trip subscriptions; teacher grants for professional development; and a statewide, school-based mentoring initiative.

School Clothing Program gets dressed up for 2009-2010

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — As many a parent and student may attest, getting back to school can sometimes be harder than the actual tests taken in the classroom. Supply lists, vaccinations and bus routes are enough to deal with, let alone back -to-school-clothes-shopping. Luckily, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is making things a little easier for parents and students alike for the 2010-2011.

The School Clothing Assistance Program aims to assist eligible Creek students three years and older and enrolled in any Head-Start or private school, or at those at least four years old and enrolled in a public or private school, no higher than the 12th grade.

Unlike in recent years, home-schooled children ages five to 18 are also now eligible for the benefits of this program. The grants of $200 may be used to purchase clothing items and/or shoes for the upcoming 2010-2011 school year and are available for each qualifying child (for example, if there are three qualifying children ages 5, 12 and 16 living in a household, at $200 each, a check totaling $600 would be released to the parent or guardian).

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Pictured above are new, full-time staff members for the School Clothing Program (left to right) Secretary Jennifer Kelly and Program Coordinator Robbin Hayes.

A full-time staff including Program Coordinator Robbin Hayes who brings five years experience working with the MCN Child Care and Secretary Jennifer Kelly is new to the program this year, replacing part-time positions in years past. The program has also moved under the branch of Social Services where according to Director Julie Zithrax means a smoother operation. "You're gonna have better oversight," Zithrax said. The new building is also located directly behind the Social Services building on the MCN complex, making it easy for citizens to access information about the program.

Applications for the program will be available beginning May 4, 2009 with the deadline to apply set for Sept. 4, 2009 at 5 p.m. Applications will be available at the School Clothing Program office, may also be picked up at the MCN Indian Community Centers, MCN Child Development Centers or through the Nation's Web site.

For more information, please contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program at (918) 756-2024 or toll-free at 800-482-1979 to request an application that may be mailed or faxed to you.

Air traffic control school now available through Tulsa Community College

Media Release
MCN Employment & Training

OKMULGEE — A two-year air traffic control school program will be offered through Tulsa Community College.

Classes will begin June 2009 and again in Fall 2009. Applicants must be ages 27 years and younger, preferrably.

Any Creek citizen or Native American in the Nation's service area that is accepted into the program may contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Employment and Training Program for information regarding assistance with this program.

For more information on the air traffic school, inquiries may be directed to Ben Bancroft at (918) 828-4041 ext. 4041.

For more information on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Employment and Training Program, please contact Melody McPerryman at (918) 732 - 7779.

BIE Youth Leadership Challenge

Media Release
Bureau of Indian Education

LAWRENCE, Kansas — The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) is sponsoring the Youth Leadership Challenge 2009. The program will provide a rigorous schedule of instruction, events, challenges, recreation and social activities that are designed to create awareness and improve the knowledge base of young tribal members in the unique Nation to Nation relationship that Indian Tribes have with the United States Government. Competition between groups and evening social activities will provide motivation and foster communication and sharing among participants and facilitators.

The program is open to American Indian/Alaska Native students who will be entering their sophomore, junior or senior year during the fall of 2009. Students from all BIE operated and funded schools are welcome to apply. Food and lodging will be provided. Students should plan to arrive on campus anytime after noon on Sun., June 14, and depart for home Sat., June 20. A total of 150-200 applicants will be approved to attend the challenge and will need to complete the following check list, to apply.

Youth Leadership Challenge Program application, recommendation forms completed by a teacher and school counselor, a 250-300 word essay (written or typed) identifying the four major areas (economic development, education, social programs, cultural activities, etc.) that the student's tribe is involved in that have a positive influence on their lives. The essay should also identify the top four challenges that the student feels his/her tribe faces and recommend solutions to those challenges, verification of enrollment in grades 9 through 11 (for example, the student's report card or a letter from the school administrator), Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) or letter from tribal official verifying eligibility for tribal membership, a one-page essay that demonstrates the student's interest in Leadership and Tribal Government, a parent's or guardian's signature on the application, a recent photograph and shirt size, a list of any medical conditions and medications that may present challenges to participation in some activities.

The application and supporting materials must be received by May 1, 2009 and must be complete to be considered. Applicants that are selected will be notified no later than May 15, 2009. Please submit applications to: Stephanie Birdwell, Deputy Director, Policy and Post Secondary, Bureau of Indian Education, 1849 C Street, NW; MS-3609 MIB Washington D.C. 20240. For more information, please contact Ms. Birdwell at (202) 208-4397 or via e-mail at sbirdwell@bia.edu.

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Cemetery crew uncovers history

SPOTLIGHT - B5

Madness in March 2009 wows the crowd

SPORTS - B7

FEATURES

Shop receives blessing

• Okmulgee Indian Community adds gift shop

MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Pictured above is Okmulgee Indian Community Chairwoman Ester Gee showing off a few pieces of art that will be available in the new gift shop area of the Okmulgee Indian Community's smoke shop.

CRAFTING A BUSINESS

On March 26, 2009, Mr. Newman Frank, Pastor of the Concharty Methodist Church, dedicated the new OIC Gift Shop located at 2850 S. Wood Drive in Okmulgee. Trevor Frank sang a Creek song and an open House followed with refreshments.

The OIC Gift Shop is a new economic development for the community. It is adjacent to the new Smoke Shop which was recently opened south of Okmulgee on Highway 75. The Okmulgee Indian Community has been a chartered community since 1983 (25 years). The gift shop will be an outlet for native artists to market their arts and crafts. The Okmulgee Indian Community has many artists who have various talents such as beading, sewing, basketmaking, leatherwork, woodwork, dollmaking, painting, drawing, and jewelry design.

OIC has sponsored a six-week Summer Enrichment Program for the last five years and funds from the Smoke Shop and new Gift Shop will help fund this program along with a CDBG grant from the Creek Nation. The children are exposed to native arts and crafts in this program and are taught basic pottery and basic basketmaking. Senior adults also come in and share their artistic talents with these children.

OIC/*Ester Gee*

Initiative holds first meeting

• Generations of Mvskoke Women gather for Initiative

Media Release
Mvskoke Women's Leadership Initiative

OKMULGEE — On Sat., March 14, grandmothers, mothers, daughters, granddaughters, nieces, sisters, and friends came together to bask in the fellowship of each other's company. Appetizers and door prize tickets were provided to almost 40 women from various regions of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to kick off the inaugural gathering of the Mvskoke Women's Leadership Initiative.

The notion for organizing this gathering was shaped from the friendship and sisterhood forged by four best friends - Angela Bunner, Cherrah Quiett, Alicia Stroble and Carmin Tecumseh-Williams. Throughout the years they've created cherished memories and have always served as a support system for each other. Because the alliance is such an essential element in their lives, they wondered how they could share that same sense of pride of their sisterhood with other Mvskoke women. Hence, the date was set to host the inaugural gathering of the Mvskoke Women's Leadership Initiative.

The welcome was provided by Cherrah Quiett and the invocation was given by Carmin Tecumseh-Williams to officially kick off the informal agenda. Angela Bunner disclosed the vision for the creation of this organization which is to simply encourage, empower and break new ground for the sisterhood of Mvskoke women.

After the vision was shared, everyone was given the opportunity to formally introduce and name one strength about herself. A wide range of assets were shared from crafts to cooking to candid speaking abilities to multitasking to grant writing to singing Mvskoke hymns.

Following the introductions, Susan Arkeketa did a short presentation regarding Census 2010. She stressed the significance of being counted and how the Census count affects Federal Grant Funding. Soon after, Alicia Stroble opened the floor to receive suggestions in creating a plan for future meetings and activities for the organization. Cooking lessons for traditional Mvskoke foods, storytelling, arts and crafts, and trips to museums were only a few of the many proposed activities. It was agreed upon that the MWLI would try to meet once a month with someone volunteering to host the site and activity. Drawings were held and 15 door prizes were given out. Helen Coon concluded the gathering by providing the benediction.

The initiative was well received and left women anticipating the next gathering. Lisa Storm of Checotah felt like it was a blessing to be there. She said, "I truly enjoyed the company and being around so many amazing elders." Tricia Fields of Glenpool expressed a similar sentiment by stating, "I had such a great time! Something like this has been long overdue. It was such an honor to spend the afternoon with so many strong, beautiful empowering Mvskoke women! I can't wait until we meet again!"

The next gathering has been scheduled for Saturday, April 18 at 1:00 PM in the Okmulgee Elderly Nutrition Center. It will be a potluck luncheon with a guest speaker and an activity for the youth.

For the May gathering, Shoshanna Wasserman and Sandra Medrano of Oklahoma City have offered to serve as hosts. The primary activity will be a tour of the American Indian Culture Center & Museum in Oklahoma City. The date and time is yet to be determined for this gathering.

MWLI would like to invite women of all ages to the next gathering on Sat., April 18 at 1 p.m., in the Okmulgee Elderly Nutrition Center (located behind the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Building). For more details contact Cherrah Quiett at (918) 520-9161 or tulsacreek@aol.com or Angela Bunner at (918) 304-0331 or mugtownhokte@yahoo.com.

Photo courtesy of Pogie Freeman

Pictured above (left to right) are Alicia Stroble, Carmin Tecumseh-Williams, Angela Bunner and Cherrah Quiett who organized the first meeting of the Women's Leadership Initiative.

Native American veterans honored at 2009 Festival

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — On Sat., June 20, Nations from all over the state of Oklahoma will come together to honor their Native American veterans and fallen comrades at 2 p.m., at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex.

The celebration will feature nine tribal honor guards marching in the 2009 Creek Festival parade in Okmulgee. Friends of the Mvskoke Nation Veterans will also be sponsoring an Indian taco and garage sale to raise $1,800 for food and lodging of the Native American Honor Guards on April 25 from 8 a.m., to 5 p.m. at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center.

For more information, please contact Mike coon at (918) 279 - 3250 or (918) 807 - 1933.

The tribal Honor Guards will gather to honor Native American veterans and fallen comrades at the 34th annual Creek Festival Parade

- Media Release from Ester Grona

Society hosts second annual men's stickball tournament

Media Relase
Society of Native American Gentlemen

NORMAN — The Society of Native American Gentlemen presents the second annual men's stickball tournmant to be held at the University of Oklahoma Intramural Fields beginning Fri., April 17 at noon.

Activities will begin at 9 a.m., on Sat., April 18. There is a $100 entry fee with a 10-player-per-team minimum (ages 18 and up only please). First, second and third place prizes will be awarded and arts and crafts will also be available for sale and viewing. There is a vendor fee of $25 and no alcohol or drugs allowed.

Participants are asked to bring their own lawn chairs. For more information, contact Monte Randall at monte.l.randall-1@ou.edu or Wes Wilson at weswilson@ou.edu.

HISTORY/CULTURE B2
Language Program update: Mvskoke Language Activity

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Creek Festival

LIFESTYLES B4
Aven Spradling

SPOTLIGHT B5
Charles celebrates her 97th birthday

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Preliminary sketch of Thlopthlocco Tribal Town

Submitted by Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Cultural Preservation

OKFUSKEE COUNTY — The Thlopthlocco Tribal Town is a daughter town of Holiwahali or Thlewathle. In the early days of Spanish contact with the Muscogee, the Holiwahlia appears to occupy the position of the first notable war town in the Creek Confederacy without the exception of Coweta, which is the foundation war town. While other tribes were forced by the Spanish to submit provisions for their gold seeking ventures, the Holiwahali appeared peaceable and cooperative. This was a discretionary performance no doubt brought on by the news that preceded the intrusive Spanish. The Spanish appears to have had no doubt bought on by the news that preceded the intrusive Spanish. The Spanish consumed this is a short time. Being that the unwelcome Spanish burdened their provision, the Holiwahali divides a deception in order to rid themselves of the unwelcome guests. Disguised as an ambassador of the Coosa People, a Holwahali Indian convinced the Spanish that they were welcome to come to Coosa to abide there before they journeyed on. The impostor guided the Spanish away from the Holiwahali, however the plan was discovered when the ambassador for disappeared but the Spanish on were away from their previous reluctant host and the plot was completed. Swanton submits the first location of Holiwahali or Thlewathle was entered

Swanton submits the first noted location of Holiwahali or Thlewathle which was entered on an early map by Lamhatty. Lamhatty places a town he calls “Cheeawoole” west of a river. Which appears to be the Flint River. The first recorded contact with the Spanish is dated 1560. It is assumed that the Thlewathle Tribal town continued at this location.

The subject of this report is said to have separated from Thlewathle because of a quarrel that broke out among the Thlewathle. The separating company moved away to a creek where the river cane grew in abundance. From that instance, they called their settlement “Lawa Lako” or the contraction of this which was and is presently “Thlopthlocco” Swanton records that these people were the more thrifty and energetic part of the Holiwahali.

This sketch concentrates on the Thlewathle at this point as the ascendant town. It must be noted with respect that the modern oral tradition on the Thlopthlocco origins have hem descended from Tuckabatchee. It must be stresses that Tuckabatchee was not originally a Muscogee Tribal Town. Much must be considered ere in the light of the Tuckabatchee people’s’ foreign origin. Tuckabatchee is said to be an entirely distinct town of Shawnee origin. The Tuckbatchee Indians have a tradition which states they descended from the Sky. The pure Muscogee towns have no such legends The Muscogee origin legend may vary slightly among the many Muscogee descended towns however the basis remains unchanged I that the emergence of the the Muscogee is at the “Navel” at the “Backbone” of the Earth which is understood to be the Rocky mountains.

A principal element that placed Tuckabatchee is prominence in Creek history was that t was designated as one of the “capitals” of the confederacy by Benjamin Hawkins in his experiment to update the Confederacy in the late 1700’s. During the times when the creeks were being constantly harassed and positioned by the whites for dispossession, Tuckabatchee became a site for many creeks who were seeking refuge with a town of the same fire. From the instance Tuckabatchee grew into a populus town. It had grown in influence and numbers; by the time of the removal it had gained notable reputation under the leadership of Opothleyahola.

Swanton states, in collaboration with historic facts recorded by other writers on other points also, that Tuckabatchee had no branch towns. There was an early established relationship with two of he foundation towns of Kashita and Coweta, especially Coweta, Written record on how Tuckabatchee was designated a Red or War town appears not forth giving in information to establish this, however tradition is sure when it is noted that this tribal town was a war town. Swanton Indians of the southeastern United States, p/ 139. Swanton, Early history of the Creek Indians and their neighbors, Bulletin 73, pp.254-258.

The removal is recorded in rant Foreman’s work as having the Thlopthlocco Tribal own in Association with Red Town under the leadership of Opothleyahola resettling in Creek Territory, It is here that we may assume that Tuckabatchee’s reputation as a mother came into prominence. Not being of Muscogee origin it is traditionally doubtful that any pure Muscogee towns can have a tribally differing and distinct town as a mother town.

Record reflects that the tribal town of Kialegee, Atasi, and Thlopthlocco as having a large degree of intimacy with the Tuckabatchee tribal town. At the time of the removal these towns gathered at Tuckabatchee and Opothleyahola state that the town he had prepared for the removal journey were all of Tuckabatchee In other words, these tribal towns were of the same fire as the now prominent tribal town of Tuckabatchee.

The Thlopthlocco Tribal Town, as stated above, was among towns associated with Tuckabatchee on its removal journey.

Because if the false claims of the degrading whites as the indebtness of his people, Opothleyahola was induced by contract to remain with warriors to subdue and gather the hostiles of the Creek War of 1836.

An influential half breed Benjamin Marshall was anxious to remove his family to Creek Territory in the west and being part of the emigrating company that was responsible for the subsistence of these Indians, set, about to take some of the Tuckabatchee and it’s associated towns to Indian Territory. This detachment was militarily conducted by a Lieut. Edward Deas. They began their removal journey from Wetumka, Alabama, December 6, 1835 and arrived at Ft. Gibson February 2, 1836. There were only 511 in this party, which as recorded included Kialegee, Asilanipi, Fish Pond and Hilibi, which preceded the larger groups under the detained Opothleyahola.

Grant Foreman tells of these towns associated with Opothleyahola were the towns mentioned above along with Thlopthlocco, Thlewathle, Autaugus, (Alabama), and the Atasi’s. August 1, 1836 Opothleyahola led this group, which numbered 2,700 to Tallassee, Alabama. On August, 31, because of the constant false claims and charges by the whites against these Indians progress for removal suffered for the demoralizing actions against the warriors who had assisted the whites in capturing the hostiles. Many were falsely arrested and others fell victim to extortion by the very whites that had solicited their help in capturing the hostiles.

Under the Charge of Lieut. M.W. Batman, this group left Tallassee, august 31, 1836. They arrived at Fort Gibson, December 7, 1836. Many had been obtained ether nu weather, which caused the worst of traveling conditions that caused a long, laborious and tedious journey. Other interruptions and trouble were given but the rowdy whites along the way. The remainder of the original number arrived at Ft. Gibson four days later. From this point mot of the tribal town went a short distance to the west side of the Verdigris River in order to recover and obtain provisions and tools for their journey for settlement into the interior of Creek Territory. Grant Foreman, Indian removal, Chap.11,pp.140-163

The Thopthlocco Tribal Town’s final settlement was located about ten miles south of Okemah, Oklahoma. This tribal town remained active from the time of arrival until 1962. The ceremonial fire was extinguished at this time. The Thomas – Rogers Act, known also as the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of 1936 afforded the Oklahoma Indians the same benefits and privileges as the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934. The Thlopthlocco Tribal Town through the act, acquired federally recognized status with constitution and by-laws ratified December 27, 1938.

LANGUAGEUPDATES

Language Program welcomes new staff member

by Kathleen Coachman
Language Program Manager

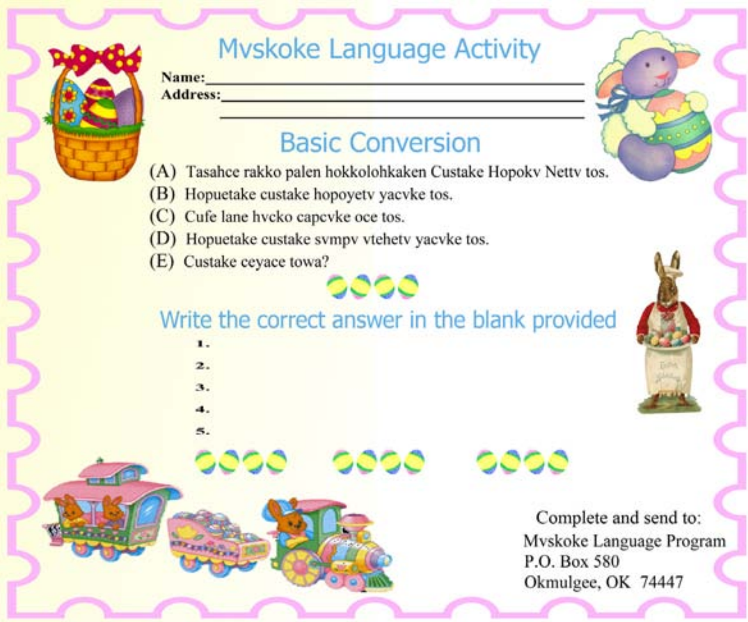
OKMULGEE — Hensci Readers! Addie Lewis cvhocefkvtos, my position is credentialed teacher, which I began on January 5, 2009. I am support for the Language teachers in the school system. I help develop curriculum, observe in the classrooms assisting with any of the teachers’ needs as well as substitute in the teachers’ absence.

The Mvskoke Language teachers have been busy preparing for an upcoming Language Fair on April 6-7, 2009 in Norman, Okla. The children are diligently practicing skits, stomp dance and native hymns. The children are also entering the poster contest, book contest and will be writing essays about the importance of native language.

The Language Department is fortunate to have such dedicated teachers. Gracine Hicks has begun working on phrases with the Holdenville students. Jason Sawyer is currently covering tribal towns and ceremonial grounds with Glenpool students. Minnie Proctor has completed semester tests with Dewar and Wilson students. Phillip Harjo has also completed semester tests with Ryal and Dustin schools.

Watch for our students in the community and give them an encouraging word or two for carrying on the Muskoke language.

And don’t forget to sign up for the Mvskoke Language Program Summer Immesion Camp 2009 to be held tenetative dates are June 1-4, 2009 at the Western Hill Lodge in Sequoyah Resort Park, nine miles east of Wagoner on Hwy 51. APPLICATION DEADLINE is APRIL 30, 2009. Send application to Mvskoke Language Program at P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK, 74447.



Mvskoke Language Activity

Name:____________________
Address:____________________

Basic Conversion

(A) Tasahce rakko palen hokkolohkaken Custake Hopokv Nettv tos.
(B) Hopuetake custake hopoyetv yacvke tos.
(C) Cufe lane hvcko capcvke oce tos.
(D) Hopuetake custake svmpv vtehetv yacvke tos.
(E) Custake ceyace towa?

Write the correct answer in the blank provided

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

Complete and send to:
Mvskoke Language Program
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447

MUSEUM NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Juried Art Competition slated for 2009 Creek Festival June 16-20

Media Release
Creek Council House Museum

OKMULGEE—The 2009 Muscogee Nation Festival and the Creek Council House Museum are calling all Native American artists for the 2009 Juried Art Competition. The juried art competition show will be exhibited at the museum from June 16 – 20. This year there will be two categories of competition: Painting/Graphic Arts and Photography.

“It will be an exciting show this year. For the first time we will have a photography category. We have also increased the number of prizes and the amount of prize money that will be awarded with one talented artist receiving the $1,000 Best of Show Award”, stated museum curator Ted Isham.

In addition to the art competition, Native American artists will be able to set up and sell their work on the museum lawn. There will be no charge for booth space but, vendors must pre-register with the museum.

Entry packets are available now. For further information and to request a juried art competition packet or a vendor on the lawn packet, please contact the museum at (918) 756-2324.

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2009

MUSCOGEE NATION FESTIVAL

BRANDY | june 19th

JAMES OTTO | june 20th

JOE DIFFIE | june 20th

June 18 - 21

Entries for the following must be submitted no later than Friday, May 29, 2009.

Men's Basketball 3 on 3	Sprint Williams 918-759-1219
Youth Basketball 3 on 3	Chad Smith 405-487-8864
Golf Tournament	Celesta Johnson 800-299-9458
Horseshoes	Liz Holata 918-732-7614
Parade	Melinda Deeringwater 918-759-4172
Slow-Pitch Softball Tourn	George Roach 918-458-0577
Volleyball	Billie Harjochee 918-732-7960

"Compete with the Best!"

June - 19,20,21

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Annual Festival

Fast-Pitch Softball Tournament

Entries must be submitted no later than Friday, May 29, 2009
Skeet Bemo 918-344-0798

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Canard - Ward Wedding

CEDAR HILL, Texas — Sherry Kathleen Canard and Peter James Ward were united in marriage on March 15, at the Tribute Golf Club in The Colony.

The bride is the daughter of Mary Butler-Canard and Doctor Roger T. Canard. She is the assistant manager, webmaster and creator of her own jewelry line "Shining Star Designs" at Castle Gap Jewelry in University Park, Texas.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Ward. He graduated from Texas A&M University - Commerce in 2000 and is currently the associate band director at Cedar Hill High School in Cedar Hill.

They honeymoon in New York City this June. Following marriage, the couple will reside at the groom's residence in Cedar Hill.

BIRTHDAYS

Martha Ann Fixico

OKEMAH — Martha Ann Fixico celebrated her birthday on March 12th with a cookout with her family.

Parents are the late Rev. Harley and Lizzie Roberts.

She has eight siblings: Sammy, Amos, Jasper, Rosie, Peggy, Ladonna, Lucy and Nellie.

She is of the Deer Clan and of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town.

She has seven children: Jonathan, Rebecca, Matthew, Mark, Polly, Nathaniel and Stephanie.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Justin Michael Francis

OKMULGEE — Justin Michael Francis, a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, is a junior at Okmulgee High School. He has been chosen to be a Student Ambassador with People to People Student Ambassador Program.

This program was started by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1956. He will be going to Italy and Greece to study the Modern and Ancient Civilization of these countries this summer.

He will need to raise $6,099 for his tuition to attend this progrm with other chosen students. As Muscogee (Creek) Citizens, we should all be proud that one of our local Creek youth has been chosen to be part of this lifetime opportunity as a Student Ambassador to another country, as he would be representing the Creek people also.

His parents, Robert and Wilma Jackson, are asking the Muscogee (Creek) Citizens to help in sending him to Italy and Greece this summer. If you would like to donate, please send your contributions to: Western Sun Federal Credit Union at 606 E. 6th St. Okmulgee, OK 74447. Please make checks payable to : Justin Francis Student Ambassador Fund.

Brianna Payne

HOUSTON — Brianna Payne, a 14 year old Freshman at Bay City High School was selected for 2009 - 2010 Houston Power 16U Select Softball Team. Houston Power is one of the top Select Softball Teams in Houston. She has been playing select softball since the age of nine.

Houston Power will participate in College Exposure Tournaments in the State of Texas as well as Colorado, New Jersey and finish with ASA Nationals in South Dakota. She played Freshman/ Varsity Volleyball for Bay City High School. She also plays golf. She is currently ranked ninth in her freshman class with a GPA of 4.89.

She is the daughter of Ron and Dense Payne.

Her grand parents are Harvey and Johnnie Mae Fox and Barbara Barnett and the late Melvin Jr.

Skyler and Summer Werner

GERMANY — Skyler Werner, along with his Genius' for Money Teammates Jennifer Bumgardner, Jamie Douglas, and Alexis Zeller-Meyer of the Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Europe (DoDDEA) Heidelberg Middle School took first place in the 2006-2007 eCYBERMISSION regional competition for V their invention, which used piezoelectric film to charge a handheld portable device using foot motion.

"Genius' for Money's" invention used piezoelectric film to generate an electrical charge when bent. Piezoelectric film is most commonly made from quartz; however, crystals such as tourmaline or topaz, and sugarcane and Rochelle salt are also used. Direct piezoelectricity that is generated by certain types of substances such as quartz can conduct up to thousands of volts. The team performed a total of 10 experiments to determine the most effective way to generate enough voltage to charge an iPod. The invention took them an entire school year to complete.

The winners each received a $5,000 U.S. EE savings bond and an invitation to attend the National Judging and Educational Event held in Washington, D.C. The "Genius' for Money" team, as the members call themselves, was recognized by judges for researching ways to charge a portable music player using foot motion.

The school's second-place winners, who each received a $3,000 U.S. EE savings bond, were: Summer Werner (Skyler's twin sister) and the rest of the "Science Angels" team; sixth graders Piper-Lenore Murphy, Sarah Moorhead, and Amanda Weiss. They were recognized by the judges for constructing a shirt designed to keep the body cool in heat and humidity. Recognizing that air conditioning is not prevalent in all communities, the team sought to design a shirt that would keep the body cool and reduce the risk of heat stroke. .

Skyler was also a 2007 Toshiba/NSTA ExploraVision Awards Honorable Mention Winner. ExploraVision encourages kids to create and explore a vision of future technology by combining their imaginations with the tools of science. All inventions and innovations result from creative thinking and problem solving. The Honorable Mention award places his team's project among the top 10% of all ExploraVision entries submitted to the competition.

The Heidelberg Middle school's eCYBERMISSION 2007 - 2008 Application of Science, Math and Technology criteria winners were: Geniuses for More, Heidelberg, Germany. Team Members: Summer Werner, Skyler Werner, Andrew Guelle and Jamie Douglas. They performed experiments to determine how their community could benefit from solar energy and gave a formal presentation to military leaders. Each team member received a $2,000 U.S., EE savings bond for their efforts.

Skyler was selected to join NJHS (National Junior Honor Society) and is again competing in the eCYBERMISSION competition with his team "The Blowhards". They are experimenting with wind power. He was also selected to participate in his school's Talented and Gifted/Enrichment Program Algebra course, for which he will receive high school credit.

Summer in her second year of participating in the annual Odyssey of the Mind competition. Odyssey of the Mind is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students. Team members apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. They then bring their solutions to competition on the local, state, and World level. Thousands of teams from throughout the U.S. and from about 25 other countries participate in the program.

She is enrolled in her school's Talented and Gifted/Enrichment Program Creative Thinking course. This course is offered for students who (1) possess high intelligence, (2) demonstrate high levels of achievement or talent, and/or (3) are academically motivated. The focus of this program is to provide differentiated learning experiences that supplement and build on the general education program based on DoDEA curriculum standards.

They were both recognized for achieving honors for the first school quarter of 2008. Summer achieved the Principal's award, and Skyler is on the Gold Honor Roll.

They are twins and are 13 years old. And are son and daughter of Tara King and Greg Werner.

Maternal grandmother is Anna (Jacobs) King. Paternal grandparents are Gordy and Gayle Werner.

BIRTHS

Aven Rosten Spradling

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. — Aven Rosten Spradling was born Nov. 21, 2008 at Fayetteville Hospital in AR.

He weighed 8 pounds 6 ounces and was 22 inches in length.

He is the son of Jarrod and Brookelyn.

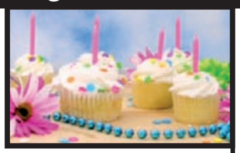
Grandparents are Steve and Janet Spradling.

Great grandparents are Jack and Yvonne Spradling.

He is of the Bear Clan and the Cheyaha Tribal Town.

Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:



Roll Number:__________________
Phone Number: (___)__________
Name: ______________________________
Address:______________________________
Date of Birth: __________________________
Theme of the party:______________________
Parents: ______________________________
Siblings: ______________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
School: ______________________________
Clan: ______________________________
Tribal Town:___________________________

Birth:

Roll Number:__________________
Phone Number: (___)__________
Name: ______________________________
Address:______________________________
Date of Birth: __________________________
Name of Hospital: ______________________
Weight: _____ **pounds** _____ **ounces**_____**inches**
Parents: ______________________________
Siblings: ______________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ______________________________
Tribal Town:___________________________

Announcements:

Roll Number:__________________
Phone Number: (___)__________
Name: ______________________________
Address:______________________________
Parents: ______________________________
Siblings: ______________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ______________________________
Tribal Town:___________________________
Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

I'm in the last week of my show here in Los Angeles. A few days ago I took a break and hung out with Charlie Hill, the Oneida comedian. We had a late lunch at Roscoe's Chicken and Waffles, one place in town that serves Oklahoma/reservation food. Then we walked around near Sunset and Vine, browsed around record stores and visited. Friendship is one of the finest gifts, worth more than nearly anything on this earth. Charlie is funny, deeply philosophical and he's given me helpful notes that have improved my performance. We stopped at an ATM machine and there in the middle of a city of over nine million human souls, we just happened to meet a young woman who just happened to be half Oneida, from Charlie's home, and half Seminole. (Her father is an Osceola). Yoklot Cornelius is a student at the fashion institute and has been finding her way around, just as Charlie did when he came to the city years ago at about the same age. After meeting Yoklot, Charlie reminisced about leaving home up North for California those many years ago. He might as well have been going to the moon. He talked about walking around the streets alone, knowing no one, and always keeping an eye open for other Indian people. I consider what it took for him to leave home, and to find his way into performing at the highly competitive, fiercely paced comedy clubs of the city, as a reservation kid. He followed his dream, and being a comedian isn't an easy dream. (I'm convinced Charlie and I were standing at the back of the line when they were passing out careers: comedian and poet!) Look for him and a crew of other native comedians he's mentored in a Showtime special soon. Charlie will be featured with: Larry Omaha, Yaqui; J.R. Redwater, Lakota; Jim Ruel, Ojibwe; Vaughn Eagle Bear, Colville; and Marc Yaffee, Navajo. Cheer them on.

This is from my friend Candyce Childers from Eagle River, Alaska. Her comments on subsistence remind me that the system of the "over-culture", or, commodity-culture is torqued by selfishness. It is coming undone.

"I went to a public forum at the university discussing the future of subsistence. It was interesting to hear people's perspective on subsistence as a concept. One panelist (Yupik) commented that subsistence and the myriad ways it is regulated is insensitive and bizarre. He drew a comparison between the land as our Native grocery and the grocery stores in the city. He asked the audience to imagine that in order to get food from the grocery in the city we all had to apply for permission. And imagine that we were told we could only go grocery shopping two weeks out of the year during which you must get everything your family of six will need for the next winter. On top of that, you could not use a car, bus or other mechanical transport to go to the grocery but must walk. It was powerful and moving.

Another interesting point that a panelist made was how our ancestors handled individuals who were selfish. Even if a man was a good hunter it wasn't a guarantee that he could remain a community member. The community survived by living communally. Everyone had to share their resources and when an individual failed to do so they would banish or kill him. The reasoning was that he would eventually cause the death of the entire village either literally from starvation or from division. Imagine how disruptive it was to have missionaries and teachers move in with their values of individualism and competition."

Thanks Candyce. The over-culture is failing because it didn't have roots deep in the earth. We will learn to live right again, all of us.

Finally, I just got a report from home. Now there are two redbird families in the yard: two males with their wives. The guys are chasing each other around the yard. The females are sitting together on the telephone wire, visiting each other.

Isn't that exactly how it is?

Cemetery crew uncovers history

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Pictured is Emman Spain consulting with co-worker and comparing pictures of the cemetery, both before and after the clean-up. Records of the recently uncovered cemetery are filed with the cultural preservation department.

> *"It is critical that people apply for this assistance before we can do this kind of work."*
>
> -Emman Spain, GIS Tech.

WETUMKA — In the remote rural area of Wetumka, the Cultural Preservation Department's cemetery crew uncovered a piece of history with the help of a Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen and the cooperation of the landowner. The crew often does work cleaning up cemeteries and charting their locations into a GPS system, but this particular project turned out to be a historical gem. With ties to Alex Posey and Alice Robertson, an interesting story unfolds as the cemetery is stripped of the vast overgrowth. The Cemetery Clean-up/Fencing project addresses the needs of tribal citizens to clean up and repair cemeteries.

The cemetery itself is unique. Firstly, the sheer size of cemetery is extraordinary. Emman Spain said, "This is one of the larger cemeteries we have worked on." Emma Spain, the Global Information Technician at the MCN's Cultural Preservation Department, recounted the over all state of the project before work began saying, "Initially you could not even see there was a cemetery here, even the larger grave markers were hard to see because of the vegetation."

There were no indications of the existence of spirit houses like one might associate with a Creek cemetery. "Because it was a mission school, the more traditional burials would not have been used," stated Spain.

Throughout Creek history, mission schools have made their appearances. The cemetery uncovered by the cultural preservation department's crew was a product of one such mission school. Baptist and the Creeks established the Levering Mission or Old Wetumka Mission. The school opened its doors on Sept. 1, 1882 under Superintendent Rev. J. A. Trenchard. In comparison to the history of Wetumka, this school would have opened the same year as the Old Wetumka Post Office.

The Levering Mission School was the entity which created the cemetery. Some documentation even suggests that the school suffered a smallpox break out. The school was allegedly quarantined to prevent further outbreaks. Some of the victims of the outbreak could be buried in the cemetery which was recently uncovered.

The School went through several superintendents and even a few name changes throughout its history. In the spring of 1891 the Baptists turned the school over the Creeks and the named was changed to the Wetumka Boarding School. The school would also be touched by some well-known historical figures associated with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

From 1900-1901, Alex Posey was superintendent until the federal government took control of the school and changed the name to Creek National Boarding School. Alice Robertson was the Superintendent of the Creek nation Schools from 1901 to 1904.

Posey was born in what is now Eufaula; he was a well-known writer and political satirist known for his Fus Fixico Letters. Robertson was a noted advocate for Native Americans, women, farmers, soldiers, and working men.

The discovery of this burial site was brought to the attention of the Cemetery Clean-up and Fencing Project staff because of a citizen who knew of a relative who was buried at the location. The citizen took initiative to contact the department after learning about the program. The project provides for one service to a location every four years.

Those seeking to submit an application for the servicing of a known site should understand that if the applicant does not own the land for which the services are needed, the applicant would have to request the permission of the land owner before the MCN Cultural Preservation Department could provide the service.

In addition to the clean up and clearing of the site the crew will also build a fence around the area. Not only does the project help locate and clear these cemeteries that would otherwise be forgotten and abandoned, but it helps to protect the sites as well. The department maintains a legal description of the location and registers the coordinates into the GPS system.

By documenting the uncovered site it can be preserved. With the Levering Mission Cemetery for instance, it is protected under certain laws, which would prevent any entity from harming or damaging the area. It also aids in protecting an individual's right to visit a cemetery within reasonable accessibility.

"It is critical that someone contacts us and applies for the service if they know of a cemetery that is neglected. We are trying to inform more people about what the project does but we cannot provide the service without the applications," said Spain.

Charles celebrates her 97th birthday

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

EUFAULA — Minnie Charles celebrated an extra special event recently. She and close family, friends, and Council members Salina Jayne-Dornan and Darrel Proctor gathered to celebrate her 97th birthday.

As a treasured elder, processing wisdom and fountain of memories, many of which others can only read about, Charles was surrounded by her loved ones at her home in Eufaula.

Multiple generations came together under one roof and enjoyed the fellowship, cake, and a marvelous punch. It was scene right out of a Rockwell painting as the youngsters buzzed about and Charles chatted brightly with friends. The ladies conversed happily, slipping effortlessly between Creek and English.

One could not help but wonder about what a lady of 97 years has seen and what her thoughts are on the world today. I wondered what woman who was born in the earlier part of the twentieth century thought about the things I took for granted. While I was alive to see the first black president, Charles was alive during the civil rights movement.

The only wish Charles expressed for this special occasion was to be surrounded by her family and friends. Feeling privileged to be apart such a cozy moment, I had to take advantage the opportunity to find out the secret of such a happy and humble person.

"What is it that keeps you going?" I asked.

Charles replied, "I do a lot of work at my church."

She also revealed that one of her hobbies was designing clothing.

"I design my own dresses," said Charles as she gestured to the hand-made printed dress she wore to the festivities.

While her 97th birthday wish was simple, only requesting to be around good people, she was showered with gifts from her guests. She beamed at the thoughtful gifts and in doing so, her smile shined even lovelier than the flowers she received.

OBITUARIES

THANK YOU

The family of Henry Coker, Sr. would like to express much gratitude to the families and friends who blessed us with their assistance, flowers, thoughts and prayers. It was heartwarming to receive all the comforting letters of sympathy. Special thanks to Molline Jackson and Brother Charles for the encouraging songs and the Belvin Baptist Church for accommodating and preparing the meals.

May God bless you all. Mvto. Thank you.

THANK YOU

On behalf of our family we would like to thank each and everyone that were there in our time of sorrow. We appreciate all the kind words and prayers that we received. We lost our mother and brother too soon but God had other plans for them. We know that they are together once again and for that, it gives us great comfort.

We would like to say "Thank You" to the Creek Nation, Alabama Ceremonial Grounds, and to the many grounds that were present, Salt Creek United Methodist Church and members, Tekoputchee Methodist Church and members, to all the ministers who gave words of encouragement, Holdenville Nutrition Center, to everyone that sat up with our family during the night, to the many who brought food, for the flowers and plants that were sent, for the telephone calls local and abroad, and to all that came to our mother's home to visit. We want to say "Thank You" to the many that we did not get a chance to speak with. Just knowing you were there gave comfort and for that we do appreciate it very much.

We would not have been able to get through this tough and tragic time in our lives. We ask that you continue to keep Lil' Joe's children and grandsons in your prayers to help them with their loss. Again, thank you for all that you did for our family.

Mvto and God Bless,

The families of Betty R. Tiger and Joseph T. Tiger.

BRODEY ISHAM

HOLDENVILLE — Brodey Hotvlke Isham entered this life on February 4, 2009, and departed it far too soon on March 11, 2009.

In his short 35 days on this earth, Brodey brought much joy to many. His memory will be forever cherished by his mother and stepfather, Loda Isham and Edwin Deere of Holdenville; maternal grandparents, Glen & Penny Isham of Holdenville and step grandparents, Jerry Deere of Holdenville and Nora Jacobs of Wewoka; maternal great-grandfather, Mose George of Holdenville; sister, Mallorie Wise Talamasey of Seminole; two stepbrothers, Darryl Deere and Caleb Deere, and two stepsisters, Staci Deere and Chelsea Deere; two aunts, Leila Kaseca and husband Kevin, of Shawnee and Leda Isham of Holdenville; three uncles: Siah Isham, Moses Isham and Corey George, all of Holdenville; and a host of other relatives and many friends

Funeral services will be Saturday, March 14, 2009, 2:00 p.m. at Many Springs Baptist Church south of Holdenville. Brodey will be laid to rest in the George Family Cemetery. Rev. Glen Kernell is the officiating minister.

Services are under direction of Fisher Funeral Home of Holdenville.

CAROLE STAPP

HOLDENVILLE — Carole Denice Stapp was born to Nancy Fish Stapp and Gene D. Stapp on December 1, 1955 in Henryetta. Carole went to be with the Lord on Saturday, March 7 in Holdenville at the age of 53.

Carole, or "Sissy" as she was affectionately known to family and close friends, attended school at Lamar and she graduated from Wetumka High School. Carole was a resident of Pioneer Nursing Home for the last 13 years and during this time she became very close to Virgil Dill, Annett Slaven, Ruth Berry, and Cindy Majors, they were very dear to her heart. She also had many other friends in the home.

She had beautiful hand writing and loved to read the local newspapers. She had a special ability for remembering the many family phone numbers and was asked numerous times by family for someone's phone number. There was no need to look up a phone number when she was around. She was a big fan of George Strait, collected all the latest of his CD's. She loved children; size, shape, or color made no difference. If she knew you she probably knew your children's names and ages. She loved big family get-togethers and visiting with everyone. She liked to sit back and be quiet but we all knew she was taking everything in even when we thought she wasn't listening. If you met her once and she liked you, she would remember you the next time you met. She had many friends and will be greatly missed by everyone that loved her and knew her.

Carole was preceded in death by Parent Gene D. Stapp and Nancy Fish Stapp, one brother Danny Joe Stapp and one sister Lavene Counts.

Survivors include four brothers: Gene R. Stapp of Crowder, Ronnie and wife Kristi Stapp of Henryetta, Bobby and wife Fran Stapp of Maud, and Pete of Tulsa; five sisters, Louise and husband Daniel Buck of Wetumka, Brenda Howell of Holdenville, Sharon Stapp of Wetumka, Anita Stapp of Holdenville and Rita and her husband Brent Smith of Weleetka; along with many other relatives and friends.

Services were March 10 at the Faith Baptist Church in Dustin with Reverend Mark Smith officiating. Pallbearers were Brent Smith, Clinton Stapp, Art Strong, Clayton Smith, Bret Stapp, and Charles Wright. Honorary Pallbearers were Danny Joe Jr. Virgil Dill, Tonny Fish and Jake Strapp.

WOODROW LEE

HOFFMAN — Funeral services for Woodrow "Woody" Lee, 83 of Hoffman was held on January 28, 2009 at Hoffman Baptist Church. Officiating were Dennis Bible, Robert Waites, and Mark Milligan. Wake services were led by Woody's nephew Casey McIntosh and were held at Shurden Funeral Home on January 27. Pallbearers were his nephews Mark Beaver, John Timothy, Keith Scott, Derick Brownfield, Dionn Brownfield, Chris Dailey, Shannon Dailey, Ricky Combs, Monroe Combs. Honorary Pallbearers were Carloss Combs, John Brooks, Sam Deer, Washington Cummings, Casey McIntosh, Curt Russell, Johnny Kilgore, Pete Burney, Billy Jack Burney, and Ivan Duncan. Singers were Dennis Bible and nieces Denice Crow and Keiann Cook. Flute player was his nephew John Timothy.

Woody was born on March 25, 1925 to Robert and Elizza Moore Lee and went to be with the Lord on January 24.

Woody attended school in Lenna and Pierce, where he enjoyed playing sports.

He married Bobbie Rae Combs on September 8, 1951 and they made their home in Hoffman and raised a son and daughter, Rocky and Ginger. During his lifetime Woody owned and operated a small store, café, worked as a brick mason, carpenter, and contractor. He was a member of Hoffman First Baptist Church.

Woody always had a love of sports which included playing basketball, baseball, running track, golden gloves boxing, playing semi-pro baseball in California, and later playing independent basketball and baseball. He also spent a good part of his life coaching men and women's independent teams and worked as a basketball referee. He also enjoyed working with livestock, raising and training roping and barrel racing horses. He owned and operated a calf roping arena where he had open roping twice a week for several years.

Woody was always involved in his children's activities, coaching his son's little league and summer baseball teams, and his daughter and nieces' fast pitch softball and basketball teams. Woody also enjoyed traveling with his kids on FFA activities, especially livestock shows. He continued his love of sports by watching and visiting with his grandchildren about their sports activities.

Woody was a caring husband, a loving dad, a terrific grandpa, brother, uncle and friend. He touched many lives and will be greatly missed by many.

Surviving are his wife Bobbie of the home; son, Rocky and wife Tamara of Okmulgee; daughter Ginger Lee Richards and husband Clellie of Enid; brother, John Timothy and wife Helen of Muskogee; sisters Glenda Scott of Dewar, Edna Brownfield and husband Fred of Dewar; brother-in-law Carloss Combs and wife Glenda of Dewar; grand children Kyle Lee, Caleb Richards, Kala Richards, Clancy Richards, Stacy Lee, Rachel Lee, and Samantha Lee.

He was preceded in death by his brothers Nathaniel Beaver and Allen Dailey; parents Elizza and Henry Dailey.

MELVIN SCOTT

WETUMKA — Melvin James Scott was born November 26, 1954 in Sacton, Arizona, the only son of Turner and Geraldine Scott. He went to be with the Lord on February 25.

He was baptized by Malcom Tiger and joined Pecan Grove Church. Melvin lived in Oklahoma City and Wetumka.

He is survived by his wife, Vickie Jemison Scott of Oklahoma City, parents Turner and Geraldine Scott of Wetumka, four sisters, Marilyn Koshiway of Del City, Leona and her husband Batiste Jones, Rosezella and her husband Donald Mayfield, Sandra and her husband Robert Rains, all of Oklahoma City, two aunts Winey Yargee of Holdenville and Lillie Harjo of Weleetka, 6 nephews, 7 nieces, 4 great-nephews, 1 great-niece, and many friends and relatives.

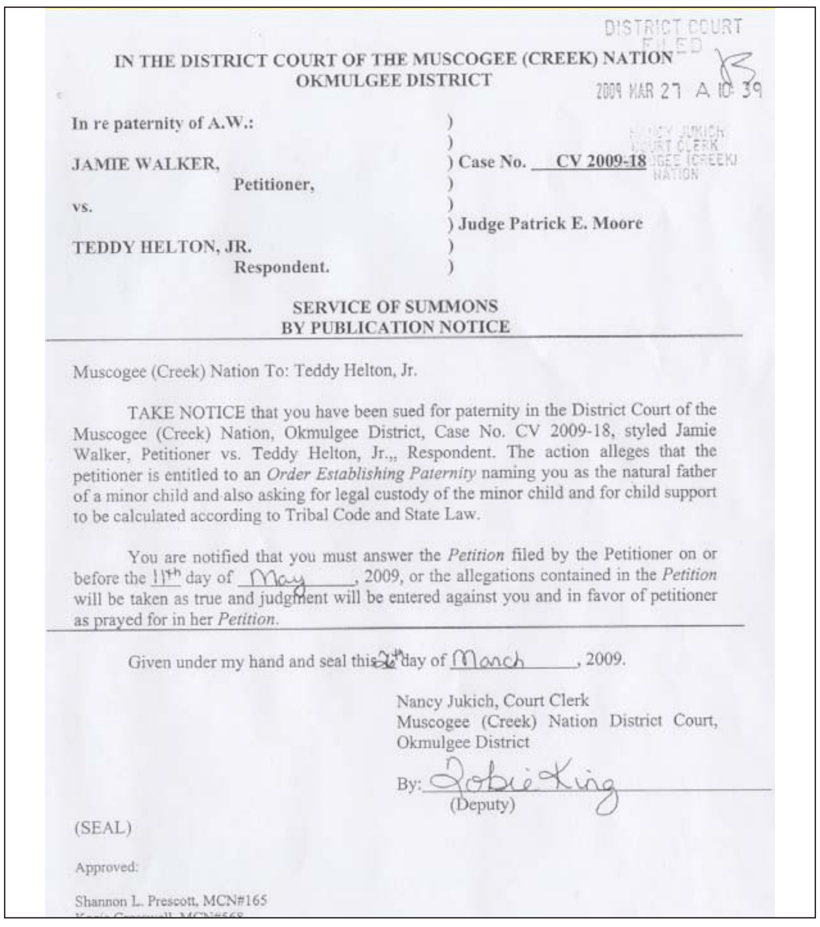
Melvin enjoyed playing music and was a bass guitarist. He played in several bands, Bo Dock Black Music Blues and Red Dawn over the years which he won a Native American Music Award in 2002 and traveled to many places. He was blessed with a full life that took him on many journeys across the United States and was prepared for this last one with the Lord.

We were blessed as a family to have him as a son, husband, and brother. He will truly be missed by everyone who knew him. He left the world content, fulfilled, and at peace. He is at rest now.

THANK YOU

We want to thank the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for all the special services provided on behalf of our loved one, George B. Almerigi, who left us unexpectedly on October 27. Special thanks to both Chief Ellis and Second Chief Berryhill, the justices and staff of the Supreme Court, the Honor Guard, the Navy honor services personnel, the National Council, the lighthorsemen of the Creek Nation and last but not least the members of the Okmulgee Masonic Lodge who conducted the rites. To all those prayers and support during and following the period of our loss, you will always be in our hearts. For those who sent food and flowers and lent support in many ways we thank you. From the George B. and Shirley A. Almerigi family.

Legal Notices



DISTRICT COURT FILED
2009 MAR 27 A 10:39
NANCY JUKICH COURT CLERK MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re paternity of A.W.:)
)
JAMIE WALKER,) Case No. CV 2009-18
Petitioner,)
vs.)
) Judge Patrick E. Moore
TEDDY HELTON, JR.)
Respondent.)

**SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE**

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Teddy Helton, Jr.

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for paternity in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. CV 2009-18, styled Jamie Walker, Petitioner vs. Teddy Helton, Jr.,, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to an *Order Establishing Paternity* naming you as the natural father of a minor child and also asking for legal custody of the minor child and for child support to be calculated according to Tribal Code and State Law.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioner on or before the 11th day of May, 2009, or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 26th day of March, 2009.

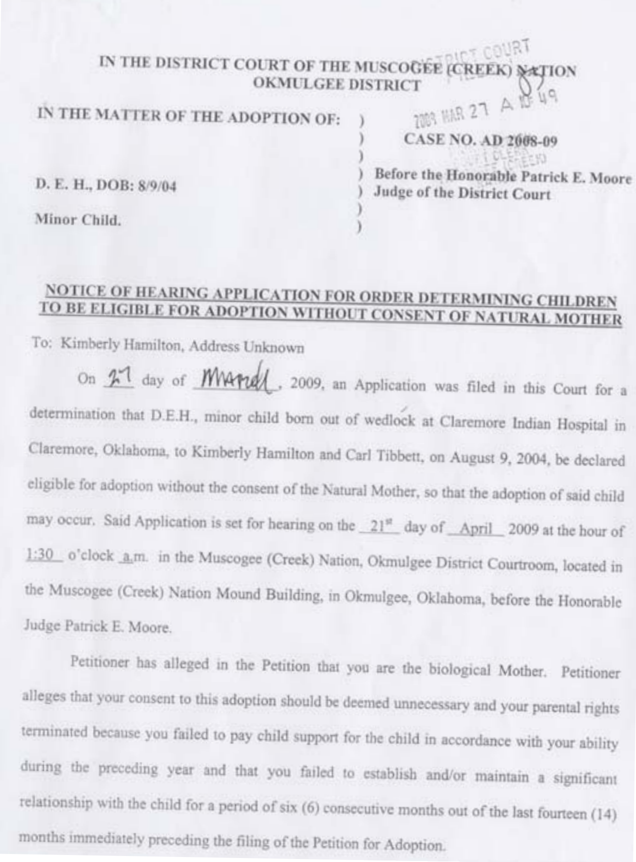
Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By: Robie King
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

Approved:

Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165



DISTRICT COURT FILED
2009 MAR 27 A 10:49

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

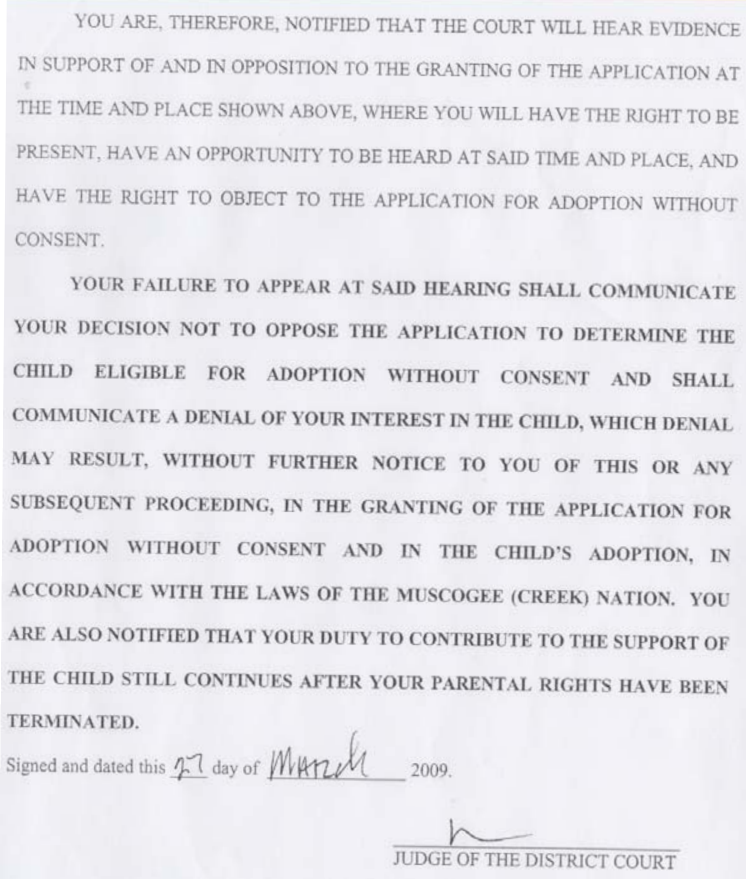
IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF:)
) CASE NO. AD 2008-09
)
D. E. H., DOB: 8/9/04) Before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore
) Judge of the District Court
Minor Child.)

NOTICE OF HEARING APPLICATION FOR ORDER DETERMINING CHILDREN TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT OF NATURAL MOTHER

To: Kimberly Hamilton, Address Unknown

On 27 day of March, 2009, an Application was filed in this Court for a determination that D.E.H., minor child born out of wedlock at Claremore Indian Hospital in Claremore, Oklahoma, to Kimberly Hamilton and Carl Tibbett, on August 9, 2004, be declared eligible for adoption without the consent of the Natural Mother, so that the adoption of said child may occur. Said Application is set for hearing on the 21st day of April 2009 at the hour of 1:30 o'clock a.m. in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District Courtroom, located in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound Building, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore.

Petitioner has alleged in the Petition that you are the biological Mother. Petitioner alleges that your consent to this adoption should be deemed unnecessary and your parental rights terminated because you failed to pay child support for the child in accordance with your ability during the preceding year and that you failed to establish and/or maintain a significant relationship with the child for a period of six (6) consecutive months out of the last fourteen (14) months immediately preceding the filing of the Petition for Adoption.

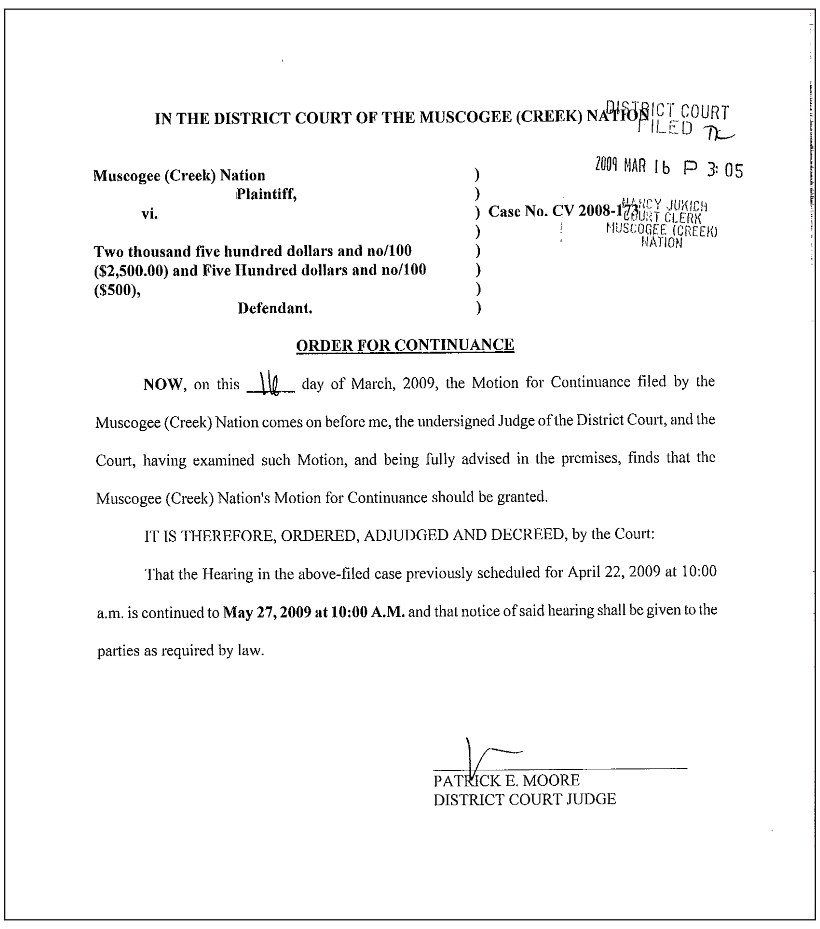


YOU ARE, THEREFORE, NOTIFIED THAT THE COURT WILL HEAR EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF AND IN OPPOSITION TO THE GRANTING OF THE APPLICATION AT THE TIME AND PLACE SHOWN ABOVE, WHERE YOU WILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE PRESENT, HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD AT SAID TIME AND PLACE, AND HAVE THE RIGHT TO OBJECT TO THE APPLICATION FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT.

YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR AT SAID HEARING SHALL COMMUNICATE YOUR DECISION NOT TO OPPOSE THE APPLICATION TO DETERMINE THE CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT AND SHALL COMMUNICATE A DENIAL OF YOUR INTEREST IN THE CHILD, WHICH DENIAL MAY RESULT, WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE TO YOU OF THIS OR ANY SUBSEQUENT PROCEEDING, IN THE GRANTING OF THE APPLICATION FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT AND IN THE CHILD'S ADOPTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION. YOU ARE ALSO NOTIFIED THAT YOUR DUTY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUPPORT OF THE CHILD STILL CONTINUES AFTER YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS HAVE BEEN TERMINATED.

Signed and dated this 27 day of March 2009.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



DISTRICT COURT FILED
2009 MAR 16 P 3:05
NANCY JUKICH COURT CLERK MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

Muscogee (Creek) Nation)
Plaintiff,)
vi.) **Case No. CV 2008-173**
)
Two thousand five hundred dollars and no/100)
($2,500.00) and Five Hundred dollars and no/100)
($500),)
Defendant.)

ORDER FOR CONTINUANCE

NOW, on this 16 day of March, 2009, the Motion for Continuance filed by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation comes on before me, the undersigned Judge of the District Court, and the Court, having examined such Motion, and being fully advised in the premises, finds that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Motion for Continuance should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE, ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED, by the Court:

That the Hearing in the above-filed case previously scheduled for April 22, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. is continued to **May 27, 2009 at 10:00 A.M.** and that notice of said hearing shall be given to the parties as required by law.

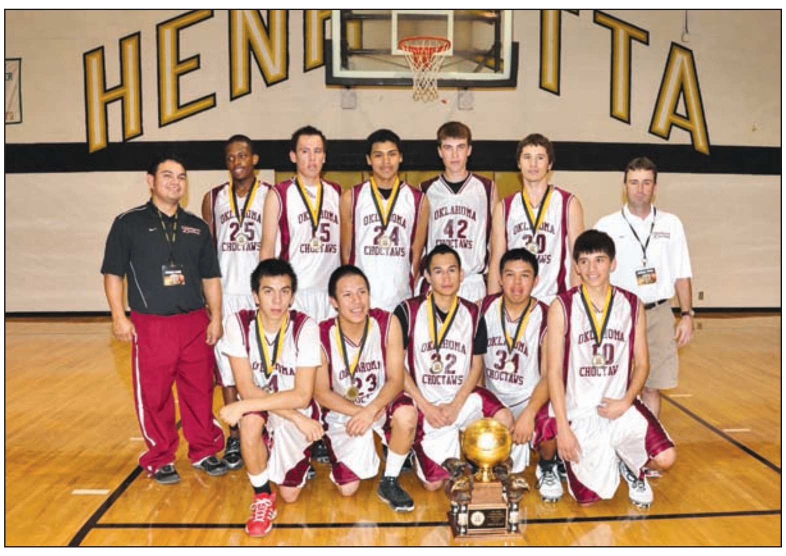
PATRICK E. MOORE
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

SPORTS

Madness in March 2009 wows the crowd

• Record turnout highlights 6th annual All-Indian hoops extravaganza

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter



HENRYETTA — The 6th Annual All-Indian "Madness in March" basketball tournament swept through the city of Henryetta on March 18-22. Once again, the week's activities attracted standing-room only crowds to witness the finest Native basketball talent in the country.

The tournament had a little different flavor this year with a lot of new faces, and featured for the first time ever, a team from Wyoming.

"A lot of the players that have dominated this tournament, such as Angel Goodrich, have moved on, so it's neat to see a little turnover in talent," said David Pascale, who helps coordinate the tournament. "Plus, it's always nice having more and more of the out-of-state teams come in."

There was turnover indeed in the girls' division as the team taking this year's title, the Lady Reds, had no Angel Goodrich. Before moving on to the University of Kansas, Goodrich had led her team to four consecutive gold balls at the event. It was time for a new champ, however, and The Reds, led by coach and OSSAA referee Harold Fox, were paced by Atoka's Kelsi Jones on their way to the title. Jones would go on to nab the tourney's MVP award in the girls division.

On the boys' side it was a newcomer to the event, Team Oklahoma Choctaw, cutting down the nets and winning the tourney behind a sensational effort from MVP Derek Anderson of Battiest. The visitors from down south came away so impressed that they wouldn't mind moving the tournament to their neck of the woods. But with the popularity and increasing exposure of this week-long mecca of Native hoops, they might have to take a number.

Other highlights of the week included high-flying Oklahoma Coaches Association All-Stater Lane Adams of Class B state champion Red Oak showing off his monster hops and claiming the slam-dunk title. There was also big individual performances on the girls 'side. Hope Conneywerdy of Frontier ripped the twines for the second consecutive year, becoming a two-time 3-point champion. To get an idea of the talent level at this year's tournament just look to the facts. There were over ten players selected to this year's Oklahoma All-State teams that were on the floor during "Madness in March." Talent like that tends to draw attention. More specifically, attention from college scouts. For a group like 4 Love of the Game, that focuses on education first, that has to be music to it's ears.

For Dean Jaderston, head men's basketball coach at Sterling University in Kansas, the decision to attend the tournament worked wonders for him. He picked up Zac Goodrich two years ago, and added high-flier Randy July a year later. He found them both at "Madness in March," and this year they led coach Jaderston and his Warriors to the school's first regular season conference title.

"Worked out real well for us," said a smiling Jaderston. "This (tournament) is the place to be."

Creek coach leads Oklahoma Wesleyan to NAIA title

• Donny Bostwick guides Eagles to first championship in his second year

by Jason Salsman
MCN Sports Editor

BARTLESVILLE — The last time I talked to Donny Bostwick, he was wrapping up his first year as head coach of the Oklahoma Wesleyan men's basketball team. The Eagles had just finished off a record-setting campaign highlighted by 25 wins and the program's first trip to the NAIA National Tournament. Hard to top, right? Think again.

Behind the unquestionable leadership of Bostwick and the hot shooting of junior guard Steve Briggs, the Eagles are the new NAIA national champions for the first time in school history. They entered the tournament red-hot, carrying with them a #1 seed and expectations to deliver in a big way for the small Bartlesville Christian school. When the smoke cleared, the Eagles had disposed of fellow conference member College of the Ozarks and were heading home from Point Lookout, Missouri with more hardware than they had arrived with.

The program has come a long way in two short years, a testament to the coaching abilities of the man with the whistle. Bostwick, a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, took over at OWU just a year ago when the program had never before experienced the post-season on such a grand stage. One year later, the Eagles have compiled a 60-10 record on his watch and have delivered the school's first NAIA Division II Championship. Although the thrill of winning it all is a new experience for OWU, it certainly isn't for it's head coach.

Bostwick previously captured the championship in 2005 at his alma mater John Brown University, where he also guided the school to four appearances in the national tournament. That followed a fantastic playing career at John Brown where he was part of a championship team as well. Make no mistake about it though, he was born to coach.

What Bostwick has accomplished at Oklahoma Wesleyan is no small feat. To take a team from relative obscurity to the top of NAIA Division II in just two seasons is phenomenal. His players have bought in to his system and now the Eagles know how to fly high. Now they are champions.

HOTCORNER

JASONsalsman
jsalsman@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
(918) 732-7644

Wow! Thats all I can say about March '09. Whether it was the NCAA tournament keeping you on the edge of your seats or the unexpected blanket of snow we got at the end there, last month was definitely not the mundane same ol' same. But that's good, I want it that way. Lord knows what would happen if I ever got bored. Hold on, I know what would happen. You remember as a kid when you got a new puppy and left it all alone for the first time, only to come home and find the house all tore up? Think that, times two. OK, enough already.

Do you need proof of just how popular the Oklahoma state high school basketball playoffs are? Here goes. Every year a combination of my mom and her sisters, and even my cousins sometimes, hole up in an Oklahoma City hotel room for a weekend to catch all the action at the Big House. Now, I know that may not seem like a big deal. It's basically a sewing circle with a sports twist. But I haven't even disclosed the ring leader of this triumphant group of gals. That would be my loving Nanny Marge, 71 years young and as passionate about sports as yours truly.

What's so awesome about Nanny is that most grandmas probably wouldn't like fighting the big crowds, taking in the heavy noise and the hectic search for decent parking. But not her, forget the peace and quiet. Give her State Fair Arena at it's rowdiest on championship Saturday, and she's a happy camper. There you go, proof that Nanny Marge is one hip chick and that the OSSAA state playoffs are Oklahoma's hottest ticket in town every March.

Everyone get out and enjoy the spring. Hey we're Oklahomans, we can swim one day and sled the next!

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Volume 2, Issue 3

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

April 2009

Rebecca Landsberry

Letter from the Editor:

Hensci readers. I'm glad to see the weather finally warming up a bit here in Oklahoma! I recently heard from one of our California Creeks and he noted the nice conditions out West, however, I know we have readers all the way in Alaska and beyond that still have a few months to thaw before they can enjoy the season!

I can't tell you how much I enjoy your letters, phone calls and e-mail about what is happening in your communities, no matter where you are. There are Creeks all over the world and each one with a unique and interesting story to tell and I revel in the fact that I get to hear so many on a daily basis.

One of the biggest things happening in our Nation right now is the court proceedings involving the communities. I have gotten the opportunity to attend most of the court dates and I am looking forward to reporting the final verdict as soon as it is released from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court.

Although there will always be disputes, I have faith that our government will always try to do what is right for the betterment of the Creek people as a whole and this goes for the executive, legislative and judicial branches.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

- Proposed legislation

Assistance for Junior National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, D.C.

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- Sanders Bros. in Preston

Sanders brothers quickly becoming masters of the mat

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CHIEF VS. CHARTERED COMMUNITIES HEARS

CLOSING ARGUMENTS

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — As debates from both sides continued throughout the month of April, testimonies from community members, representatives and tribal authorities have been heard by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court.

Duck Creek, Holdenville, Okemah, Checotah and Eufaula Indian Communities have relied heavily upon community officers for the defense. The Court has heard Checotah Community Chairman Wilson Bear and former National Councilman and current Chairman of Eufaula Community Tom Pickering.

A number of tribal officials have also been subpoenaed in the case over the past month including Muscogee (Creek) Nation Gaming Commissioner Jason Nichols and Principal Chief A.D. Ellis who have both taken the stand twice. Also testifying have been Manager of Community Research and Development Steve Landsberry, Director of Community Services Dr. Danette McIntosh and Controller Gary Rogers, among others.

One of the areas being disputed is whether or not gaming funds are being expended as per capita payments in the form of community programs, a number of which, have no need-based requirements.

The National Indian Gaming Commission has strict regulations as to the use of gaming funds. If MCN communities are found to be using gaming money to finance community programs, the NIGC could fine the Muscogee (Creek) Nation or possibly revoke the Nation's gaming license.

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Pictured above is the crowd gathered at one of the days of testimony in the Chief v. Chartered Communities case which was heard over the course of several days. A ruling on the case has not yet been released.

On Mon., April 13, MCN District Court Judge Patrick Moore heard closing arguments from both sides. Upon conclusion of these, all defense attorneys requested to submit written findings of fact to the Court by or before noon on Fri., April 17 for the Court's consideration.

Keep reading the *Muscogee Nation News* for up-to-date information regarding the progress of this matter. All developing information will be published in the MNN.

Principal Chief responds to petition allegations

Media Release
Office of the Principal Chief

OKMULGEE — Listed are the allegations/accusations made in the Notice of Petition to Remove a Public Officer, against A.D. Ellis, Principal Chief, filed in the Election Board Office on March 20, 2009. Following each allegation/accusation as stated in Violation of Oath of Office (word for word as printed in the Notice of Petition to Remove a Public Officer) you will find Chief Ellis' rebuttal statements.

A. A.D. Ellis, without sufficient cause and without due process, and outside of any powers within his constitutional capacity as Principal Chief, did issue "Proclamations" which were not authorized by tribal law, and upon issuance of those "Proclamations" did interrupt the legal operations of properly chartered Communities of the Muscogee Nation.

As Principal Chief I have the executive authority, as all former Chiefs had during their term in office, to issue Proclamations and Executive Orders. Clarification, the official papers that I issued were not Proclamations, they were Executive Orders.

B. A.D. Ellis has, in violation of tribal law, utilized the light Horse to deliver documents of the Office of the Principal Chief, creating the false illusion that said documents were orders of the Courts of the Muscogee Nation, in an attempt to intimidate legal officers of properly chartered Communities of the Muscogee Nation.

SEE PAGE 2

Week of the Young Child

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — Kicking off an important week for early childhood education, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis signed a proclamation which recognizes April 20-24 as the Week of the Young Child. A collaborative effort between programs, policies and people has been made to achieve the task of putting children first.

Many head start facilities will be celebrating next week by attending the Little Olympics at the MCN complex and participating in a parade around the downtown Okmulgee square which starts at 10am. Apart from those activities some locations are having special events like Yardeka Head Starts balloon release on April 21 at 10am.

Muscogee Nation News
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Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

From the Office of the Principal Chief

Continued from Page 1

The Light Horse Police Department falls under the Administration Branch of Tribal government and has always delivered documents when called upon. These documents did not appear or mention any court systems.

C. A.D. Ellis, during a period immediately before our national elections for Principal Chief, Second Chief, and National Council, did expend tribal funds for campaign purposes by going to California to campaign among absentee voters.

I have receipts on my credit card that prove all expenses to California were paid by me. Therefore you will not find this information in tribal records. But what you will find in tribal records is travel expenses paid in the amount of$749.79 to Anaheim, Cali., for Tom Pickering to campaign during this time. During this same time frame, Bill and Jeff Fife was paid a total of $331.2.27 to go to Montgomery, Ala., Lena Wind was paid $1.072.38 to Las Vegas - Ms. Caldwell $91.2.05 to Las Vegas in July 2007. Could one say that these were campaign trips?

D. A.D. Ellis did, without authorization, sell tribal assets in the form of the bison heard which grazed upon the Hanna Project tribal lands, and did, without authorization, expend the proceeds of that sale to settle a tribal program debt which had not been authorized by the National Council and which the National Council had properly refused to honor because it had never been authorized.

> *"I would advise the sponsor of this Petition to get educated on the Nation's tribal affairs before throwing accusations."*
>
> \- Principal Chief A.D. Ellis

I've never even seen this bison herd. I believe they were given to the Nation free and accepted by Second Chief Berryhill. I understand the former director Allen Harjo sold these animals due to high maintenance cost (expenses in excess of$50,000 per year); proceeds were used to purchase more cattle. National Council was informed.

E. A.D. Ellis has either, (a) interfered with, or (b) allowed other persons to interfere with, the plain language of an Amendment adopted by the Constitutional Convention and to change the language and meaning and intent of that Amendment prior to its submission to the Election Board by the Constitution Committee, thereby failing to enforce the laws and constitution of the Muscogee Nation.

I have absolutely no control over the duly established Constitutional Commission. The National Council's lack of action is now depriving the Creek people of their voting rights to amend their Constitution.

F. A.D. Ellis has wasted tribal resources through constant legal battles against the National Council of the Muscogee Nation, and has utilized members of the Supreme Court for political purposes by securing rulings which are not only contrary to the plain language of the Constitution of the Muscogee Nation but also contrary to the customs and traditions and political history of the Muscogee people.

How dare anyone say I utilized the Supreme Court in any way. This court is our supreme court and has ruled as accurately as possible according to our Constitution.

G. A.D. Ellis has failed to properly manage and safeguard the Muscogee Nation's finances by making sure that a different independent outside auditor is brought in no more than every fifth year.

The National Council passed legislation to permit this auditing process.

H. A.D. Ellis has used the Muscogee Nation News to make personal attacks against tribal members, contrary to the fact that each enrolled citizen owns an equal undivided interest in the Muscogee Nation News, and I believe that any such personal attacks are beneath the dignity of the office of Principal Chief.

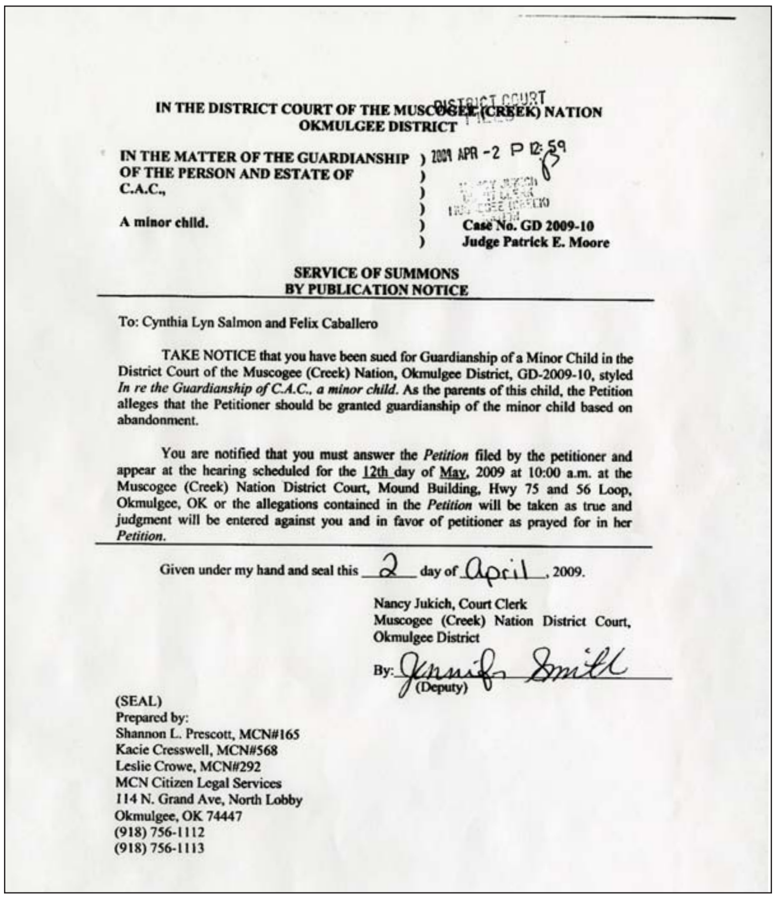
I agree, all tribal property belongs to the Creek people. I only write the truth and I will stand by anything I say.

I. A.D. Ellis terminated the successful watermelon project of the Hanna Community despite the fact that they were receiving support funding from other tribal chartered communities and has not offered them technical assistance to return the project to the Hanna Community nor allowed them access to community funds.

The watermelon project planted 40 acres last year and this year plans on planting 100 acres. They may even double the revenue for 2009, that which they made in 2008. I believe this means we are improving the operation - not terminating it, as Deborah Pruitt states.

I would advise the sponsor of this Petition to get educated on the Nation's tribal affairs before throwing accusations.

Legal notices



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE OF C.A.C.,

A minor child.

2009 APR -2 P 12:59

Case No. GD 2009-10
Judge Patrick E. Moore

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Cynthia Lyn Salmon and Felix Caballero

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for Guardianship of a Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD-2009-10, styled *In re the Guardianship of C.A.C., a minor child.* As the parents of this child, the Petition alleges that the Petitioner should be granted guardianship of the minor child based on abandonment.

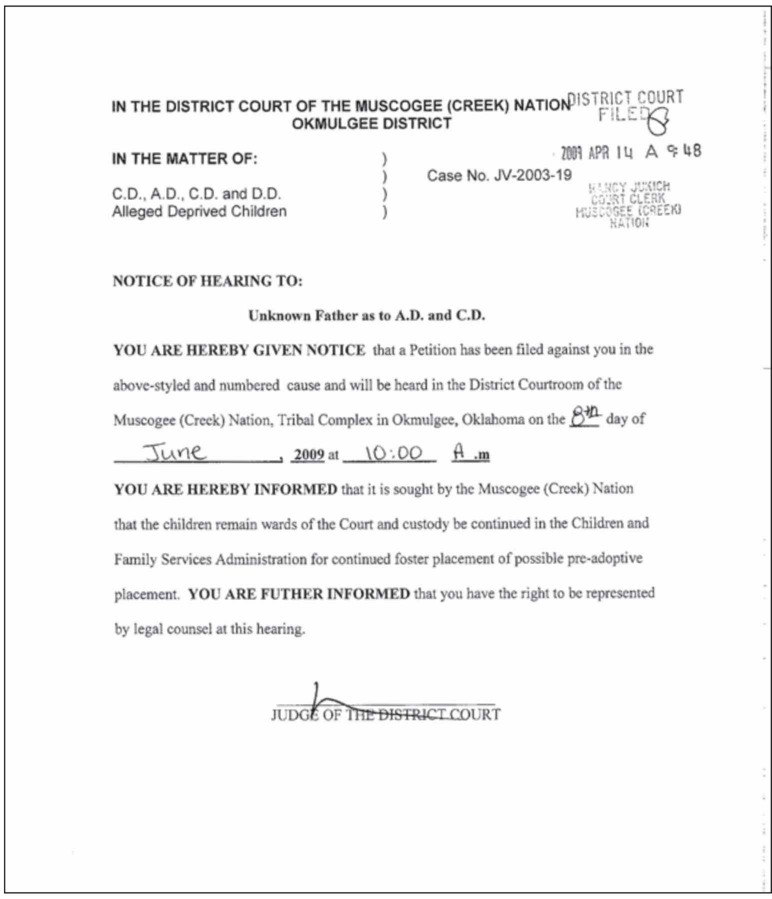
You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner and appear at the hearing scheduled for the 12th day of May, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Mound Building, Hwy 75 and 56 Loop, Okmulgee, OK or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 2 day of April, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By: Jennifer Smith
(Deputy)

(SEAL)
Prepared by:
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kacie Cresswell, MCN#568
Leslie Crowe, MCN#292
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 APR 14 A 9:48
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE MATTER OF:

C.D., A.D., C.D. and D.D.
Alleged Deprived Children

Case No. JV-2003-19

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Unknown Father as to A.D. and C.D.

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 8th day of June, 2009 at 10:00 A .m

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

Proposed legislation

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

Business and Governmental Committee

Chairperson: Steve Bruner

NCA 09-068 is law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing a special appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health administration to provide a maintenance agreement for the emergency medical alert device system.

The bill was introduced on April 6, 2009 by Rodger Barnett, who also sponsored the bill. The purpose of this Act is to authorize a special appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System to purchase a maintenance agreement.

Should the bill pass the sum of $30,000.00 would be appropriated for the use of purchasing emergency alarm systems for citizens in need.

NCA 09-069 is law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a special appropriation to financially assist a Muscogee (Creek) student to participate in the Junior National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, D.C.

The elementary student was nominated by a teach to represent Okmulgee in the conference. The nomination was based on the student's scholastic merit, maturity and strength of character.

The bill was introduced on April 3, 2009 by James Jennings, who also sponsored the bill. The purpose of this Act is to authorize a special appropriation to financially assist a Muscogee (Creek) student to participate in the Junior National Young Leaders conference in Washington, D.C. The appropriation would be for $1,291.50.

Tribal Affairs Committee

Chairperson: Bill Fife

NCA 09-070 is Law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the environmental services FY-2009 budget.

This bill was introduced on April, 1 by the Office of the Second Chief and sponsored by Eddie LaGrone.

The Environmental Department requires a supplemental appropriation for the FY 2009 budget in the amount of $11,640.00 to continue the Dumpster program.

The purpose of this Act is to authorize a supplemental appropriation to the Environmental Services Taxes and Licenses FY 2009 Budget. The appropriation is would be for the amount of $11,640.00.

Enacted legislation

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

TR 09-020 is Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Principal Chief, on behalf of the Division of Housing to enter into local cooperation agreements and payment in lieu of tax agreements, with the various counties located within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

TR 09-022 is Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Principal Chief to execute service agreements with Verizon wireless and their authorized agents for cellular phone services.

TR 09-023 is Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Great Seal of the Muscogee Nation to be displayed on the site and/or in exhibit galleries of the American Indian Cultural Center and Museum.

NCA 09-035 is law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a budget modification for the Division of Housing.

NCA 09-043 is law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds for phase III of the Hanna Indian Community Garden/Farm project and authorizing the transfer of the Hanna Indian Community Garden/Farm Project program income to the Hanna Indian Community.

NCA 09-044 is law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

NCA 09-049 is law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the Mvskoke language program FY 2009 Budget.

NCA 09-050 is law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of funds awarded to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Transit program.

NCA 09-051 a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the expenditure of funds awarded to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration Program.

NCA 09-055 is law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a supplemental appropriation to Muscogee (Creek) Nation Risk Management for the establishment of a Geospatial Department.

NCA 09-056 is law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a special appropriation to assist Dewar Public Schools.

NCA 09-057 is law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing an appropriation to assist in sponsoring the 7th Annual Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair.

NCA 09-059 A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a special appropriation to assist a Muscogee (Creek) student in participating in the nationally recognized People to People Student Ambassador Program.

NCA 09-060 is law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a special appropriation to assist a Muscogee (Creek) student in participating in the nationally recognized People to People Leadership program.

NCA 09-061 is law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending MCNCA Title 21, 4-102 (F) "Stipends/Mileage" to adjust stipend rates.

Committee Meetings

Business / Governmental
Steve Bruner - Chairman
Pete Beaver - Vice-Chair
Larry Cahwee
Selina Jayne-Dornan
David Nichols
Travis Scott
Paula Willits

Meetings: Thursday prior to Planning Session at 6 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Tribal Affairs
Bill S. Fife - Chairman
Sam Alexander - Vice-Chair
David Hill
Adam Jones
Eddie LaGrone
Carmin Tecumseh

Meetings: Third Tuesday at 5:30 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Human Development
Johnnie Greene - Chairman
Darrell Proctor - Vice Chair
Shirlene Ade
Ron Cleghorn
James Jennings
Keeper Johnson

Meetings: 1st Monday at 7 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Community Services / Cultural
Cherrah Quiett - Chairman
Roger Barnett- Vice Chair
Terrie Anderson
Robert Hufft
Kara Medina
Lena Wind

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m., in the Council chambers.

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To the Honorable Principal Chief A.D. Ellis
For the every day challenge on behalf of all Maskokvlke.
A time for Thank You, Appreciation and Encouragement.

Joshua 1:3-9
I promise you what I promised Moses: 'Wherever you set foot, you will be on land I have given you ... No one will be able to stand against you as long as you live. For I will be with you as I was with Moses. I will not fail you or abandon you.

Be strong and courageous, for you are the one who will lead these people to possess all the land I swore to their ancestors I would give them. Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do. Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do. This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

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Contact Rebecca Landsberry by phone at (918) 732 - 7743 or by E-mail at Rlandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Cruce spices things up at FD

by Joshua Slane
Systems Analyst

OKMULGEE — In today's economy, many people are either suffering, or one pay check or unexpected expense away from suffering, and while some CEOs might be suffering on a nice beach somewhere while sipping a martini many of us are not so fortunate in our ill fortune. Thankfully, for those of us who live in the real world, there are programs that are designed to help us through hard times. One of these programs is the Food Distribution Program.

The Food Distribution Program is a food supplemental program, which aims to assist individuals and families that would not otherwise get enough to eat.

One of the things that separates the food distribution program from the federal food stamp program is that if applicants meet the Food Distribution's guidelines they are entitled to the full amount of assistance whereas benefits are available on a sliding scale with the food stamp program.

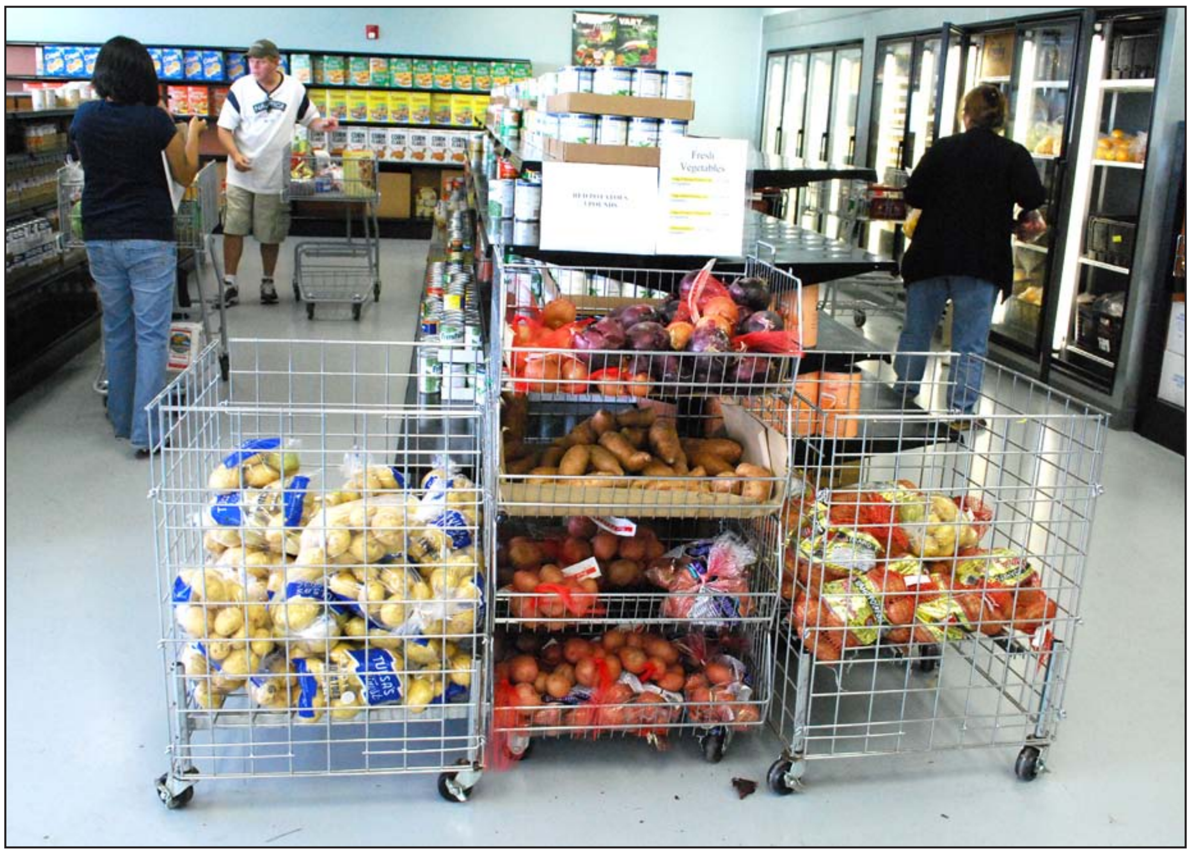
Of course, households that have to feed more people will receive more help, but that is independent of income, so long as they meet the guidelines listed below.

Applicants will need a CDIB or citizenship card from a federally recognized tribe. Second, they must submit verification of income for the last thirty days or verification of unemployment. Third, proof of residency within the boundary of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation which takes the form of a utility bill in the applicant's name must be provided. And lastly, applicants must submit copies of the social security cards for all household members.

Unfortunately, people who reside within the city limits of Tulsa, Broken Arrow, Sand Springs and Muskogee are not eligible to receive help from the food assistance program, but may still apply for food assistance is through the federal food stamp program.

The income guidelines are as follows: For a household of one, the income limit per month is $1,011. For a household of two it is $1,311. For a family of four the amount is $1,914. There are some deductions, as in the case of a party making child support payments to someone outside of the household. The party is then allowed to deduct the amount of child support. Additionally, and if earned income credit is available, the applicant would be allowed to deduct 20 percent of the earned income.

There are a couple of ways to go about receiving assistance through the program, the most common of which would be to come to the food distribution center and pick up the food your household is allotted.



MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Pictured above is the Food Distribution Center which serves the nutritional needs of some 2700 to 2900 people living in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation on a monthly basis.

The second option allows participants to receive thier food from local distribution stops made monthly. A Food Distribution truck travels to a variety of points throughout the Creek Nation and distributes the food for clients that might not have reliable transportation may still receive assistance without having to travel to Okmulgee. The locations include stops in Holdenville, Checotah, Bristow, Glenpool, Sapulpa, Coweta, Eufaula, Weleetka and Okemah.

The supply truck runs to Bristow Indian community Center on the second Thursday of every month from the hours of 9:30 to 11:30, Checotah from 9:30 to 11:30 every third Thursday, Coweta every second Tuesday at 8:30 to 11:00, Eufaula every third Tuesday from 9:30 to 11:30, Glenpool on the second Wednesday from 9 a.m., to 10 a.m., Holdenville on the fourth Thursday of the month from 9:30 to 11:30, Okemah on the fourth Wednesday from 9 a.m., to 10:30, Sapulpa on the third Wednesday of the month from 9:30 to 11:30 and Weleetka on the fourth Tuesday of the month from 9 - 10 a.m. A copy of this schedule is also available in the *Muscogee Nation News* each month.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Food Distribution Program serves between 2700 and 2900 people monthly, and as can be expected of such a program in these times of economic turmoil, the program is still growing.

Recently, I had the opportunity to sit down with the new manager of the Food Distribution Program, Anna Cruce. Anna lives in Okmulgee and is the grand daughter of Chief Claude Cox. She has a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Southern Nazarine University that she received in 2000. She worked for the health system from 1993 through 2001 when she moved away from the Muscogee Nation. She only recently returned, applied for the position of manager and began work on Feb. 23. The following is an interview conducted on March 25, 2009.

Joshua: What is your favorite thing about working here at Creek Nation.

Anna: I believe Creek Nation has a great opportunity to move forward and I enjoy helping the citizens.

Joshua: So, having just stepped into your position a little over a month ago, what is your impression of the way the program is running?

Anna: I am very pleased with how things have been run. But I also know that there is always room for improvement and that will come with time.

Joshua: So what are some of the things happening in the Food Distribution Program?

Anna: Currently we are in the process of having another distribution center built. It is located in Wetumka and will serve the clients in that portion of the Muscogee Nation.

> *"I am very pleased with how things have been run. But I also know that there is always room for improvement and that will come with time."*
> - Anna Cruce

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Community Calendar

• Friends of the Mvskoke Nation Veterans to host taco and garage sale

OKMULGEE — Friends of the Mvskoke Nation Veterans will be sponsoring a taco and garage sale in order to raise money for the Native American Veterans from all Nations.

Please note that there has been a date change for the sale which will be held Sat., April 25, not April 20, as stated previously. The event will be held at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center beginning at 8 a.m., and lasting until 5 p.m.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Mike Coon at (918) 279 - 3250.

• Tobacco Workshop: Cultivating Reverence

OKMULGEE—The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program will be hosting a tobacco workshop on Thurs., May 7 from 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., at the Green Country Technology Center, in the main building in conference rooms A and B.

The workshop will be instructed by Bill Breckinridge and lunch will be provided. The sessions are open to everyone who would like to explore the history of tobacco, examine modern American attitudes toward tobacco, learn alternatives to commercial tobacco and preserve Native cultures.

There will also be a hands-on planting session to prepare and plant seeds for a summer garden and ongoing assistance will be provided to conserve tobacco plants throughout the year.

For more information or to register for this event, please contact the MCN Tobacco Prevention Program by phone at (918) 623-1189 or fax at (918) 623-2077.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Webb-Vega & Tabbytite Wedding

OKMULGEE — Gina Webb-Vega and Scott Tabbytite are planning to wed in May.

The bride is the daughter of Margie Chalakee and Steve and Kim Fleener.

She has one sibling, Jonah Fleener.

Her grandparents are the late Martha and Webster Chalakee and Gene and Peggie Fleener.

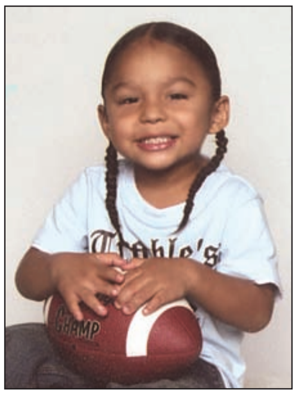
She is of the Deer Clan and of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town.

The groom is the son of Rhonda Parker and Shawn Tabbytite.

He is also the grandson of Mary Smith and Hazel Fields.

BIRTHDAYS

Kaden Blaise Felix



TULSA — Kaden Blaise Felix celebrated his fourth birthday on March 6, with a theme of "Spiderman" for his cookout party at Kiddy Lake.

He is the son of April Thomas and Louie Felix.

He has one sibling, Jaden Morgan Felix.

Maternal grandparents are the late Reba Thomas and Bourbon Lasarge.

Paternal grandparents are Sue Morgan Bishop and Ronald Felix.

Great grandparents are the late Albert and Bernice Thomas.

He is of the Raccoon Clan and the Kialegee Tribal Town.

Isaiah L. Hicks

TULSA — Isaiah L. Hicks celebrated his 11th birthday on Feb 21, with a dinner with family.

He is the son of Judith Hicks.

He has five siblings: Elijah Hicks, Keaton, Kia, Keirra and Ethan Tiger.

Grandparents are Helen and Tommy Frank and Terry and Fracine Hicks.

He is an honor roll student at Okemah Public Schools.

Madison Nicole McGirt

MOUNDS — Madison Nicole McGirt celebrated her third birthday with a theme of "Dora the Explorer" at Chuck E. Cheese.

She is the daughter of Chester and Stephanie McGirt.

She has four siblings: R.D., Amber, Tristan and Dylan.

Grandparents are Kay and Louis Marshall and the late Betty McGirt.

Great grandparents are the late Stoddard and Jeanetta Sullivan and the late C.O., Sr., and Samaria Marshall.

She is of the Deer Clan.

Brigitte Elizabeth Postoak

TULSA — Brigitte Elizabeth Postoak celebrated her 22th birthday on April 4, with a theme of "Let the Good Times Roll."

She is the daughter of the late Amos and Marion Postoak.

She has 10 siblings;: Morgan, Gwen, Christina, Jeffry, Louis, Ashlee Postoak, Charlie Miller, Bonnie Jackson, Noel and Rebecca Rutherford.

Grandparents are Eli and Elizabeth Postoak and Karl and Brigitte Zwanzig.

Great grandparents are Lincoln Postoak and Patty Bruner Tingley, Lucinda T. Culley and Thompson Davis, Otto and Frieda Zwanzig and Arthur and Anna Floether.

She is of the Beaver Clan.

BIRTHS

Alexzavier John Taske Lowe

TULSA — Alexzavier John Takse Lowe was born on Oct. 3, 2008 at St. Francis.

He weighted 9 pounds and 1 ounce and was 22 and 1/4 inches in length. His parents are Heather and Vincent Lowe. He has one sibling, J-Lyn Rochelle Culv Lowe.

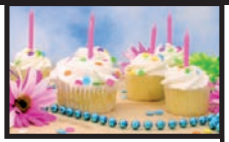
Grandparents are Joellen Frank and Gloria and Rusty.

Great grandparents are the late Rev. Newman and Louvina Frank and the late Joseph and Betsy Factor.

He is of the Wind Clan and attends Springtown UMC.

Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:



Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)___________
Name: ______________________________
Address:______________________________
Date of Birth: _________________________
Theme of the party:____________________
Parents: ______________________________
Siblings: ______________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
School: ______________________________
Clan: ______________________________
Tribal Town:___________________________

Birth:

Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)___________
Name: ______________________________
Address:______________________________
Date of Birth: _________________________
Name of Hospital: ______________________
Weight: ______ **pounds** ______ **ounces**______**inches**
Parents: ______________________________
Siblings: ______________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ______________________________
Tribal Town:___________________________

Announcements:

Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)___________
Name: ______________________________
Address:______________________________
Parents: ______________________________
Siblings: ______________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ______________________________
Tribal Town:___________________________
Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Contact Starla Bush by phone at (918) 732 - 7636 or by E-mail at SBush@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Sanders brothers quickly becoming masters of the mat

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

PRESTON — Fans of wrestling, and no its not the glitzy WWE "sports entertainment" wrestling I'm talking about, might want to keep an eye on the tiny town of Preston. Two Creek boys are ready to make waves on the mat scene.

The brothers Sanders, Mateo and Yahola, have carved out a nice path of success in just a short time and are quickly becoming household names in the grappling community. These siblings might have started out wrestling each other, but now have their sights set squarely on the competition. The scary part is, they're just getting started.

The rookie is five-year-old Yahola, whose first season in wrestling seemed to resemble that of a wily veteran, not someone just learning the ropes. There was not much of a learning curve. In the seven tournaments he entered, Yahola placed in six while competing in the 6-under, Division I-66 lbs., and heavyweight division. He finished his year with runner-up titles at the Glenpool Novice and Ft. Gibson Classic tournaments. He nabbed a third place finish at the Collinsville Novice tourney and finished with fourth place honors at the Tulsa Blue-T, Coweta Classic and Oologah Novice tournaments. With all the success he enjoyed in his first season of the sport, the future in wrestling sure looks bright for Yahola Sanders.

It might be in his second year that he really begins to fly. After all, that's what big brother did. Mateo Sanders, a second-grader at Preston Elementary, competed in 10 tournaments in his second year and placed in every single one. Simply put, Mateo was a winning machine. He captured championship finishes at the Glenpool Novice, Coweta Classic, Tulsa Blue-T, East Tulsa Central and Tulsa Union Tournaments. He narrowly missed out on two more titles with a runner-up at the Collinsville and Oologah Novice tournaments.

Those accomplishments would pale in comparison to Mateo's biggest feat, however, as he traveled to the Cliff Keen Novice Nationals to take on wrestlers from all across the United States. Mateo set a blistering pace for the rest of the field as he pinned his first three opponents, all in the first period, to advance to the championship where he faced off against Jaydon Woodruff of Colorado. Mateo came out on top, 7-2, to claim the title of National Champion. Perhaps the biggest thrill from Mateo was receiving his championship trophy from Olympian and former pro Danny Hodge. This was Mateo's last year in the Novice division as he will move to Open competition next year.

Mateo and Yahola are the sons of proud parents Missy and Virgil Sanders of Okmulgee. Paternal grandparents are Edna Fixico and Kenneth Tiger of Okemah and Virgil Sanders, Sr., and Dorothy Simms of Choctaw. Maternal grandparents are Glenda Washington and the late Allen "Sonny Boy" Dailey.

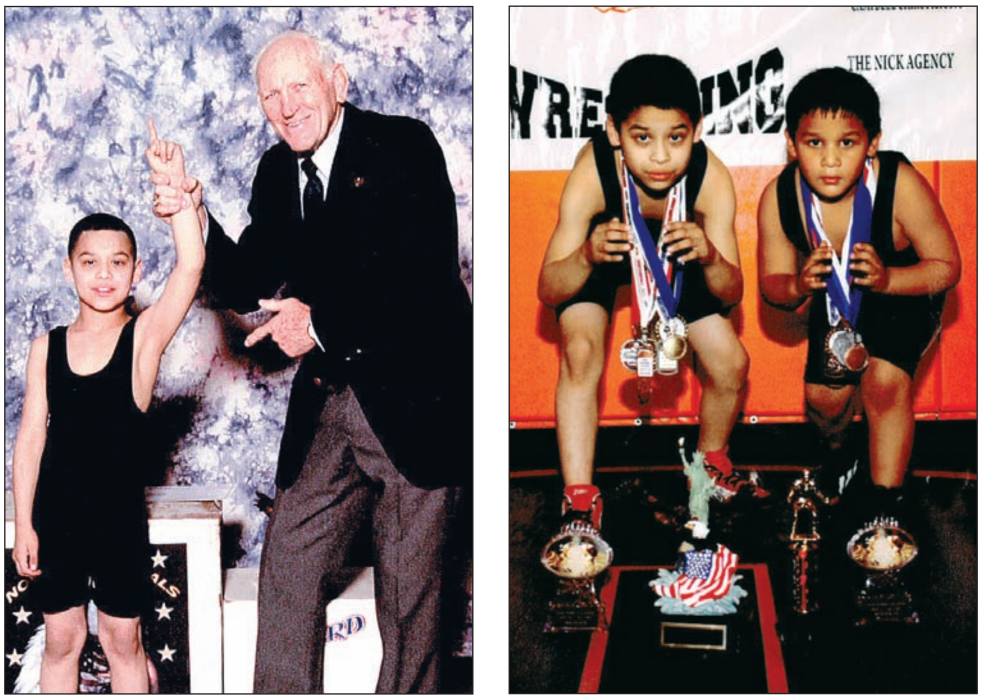


Photo courtesy of Missy Sanders

At left, Mateo Sanders receives his congratulations for winning the Cliff Keen Novice National Championship from wrestling legend Danny Hodge. On the right, Mateo along with younger brother Yahola, strike a fearsome pose for the competition. Together, the brothers compiled an outstanding record on the season and set the tone for what should be two very successful mat careers.

Sports Calendar

• 4 Love of the Game unveils new tourney

MUSKOGEE — To all the fans of the wildly successful "Madness in March" basketball tournament put on by 4 Love of the Game that just can't wait until next year's event, you may have some pacification on the way.

The organization has announced it's newest round-ball tourney, the "July Jump-Off," which is scheduled to be held July 8-12 in Muskogee. The tournament will have the same feel as college basketball's Maui Classic, with a Hawaiin summer theme.

"We're going to have all the coaches in Hawaiin shirts just like in college at the Maui tournament," said director Lucas Taylor. "It's just something new and different and we feel like we can create a neat little tradition around here during the summertime for the kids."

The tournament will, for the most part, follow the format of the March event with a college day planned and several fun activities for the kids and coaches including a luau get-together, beach volleyball and a golf scramble. Competition will begin on Thursday with two pool play games, followed by a double-elimination tournament during the weekend. Just like Madness, the Final Four will be on Sunday. All the action is set to take place at Muskogee High School and Bacone College. The age group will be the same as in the March tournament with the only requirement being incoming freshman through outgoing seniors. Teams can start registration on Monday, April 20. Cost will be $300 per team. A considerable value when compared to other high-profile tourneys around the country.

"You can take a team of 10 to this tournament for $300 or you can take the same squad out to Phoenix for over $1,000," pointed out 4LOTG board member David Pascale. "And we'll stack up any of those tournaments out there that supposedly do everything for the kids against ours. To us, that's the only thing it's about, the kids."

The organization is also gearing up for it's first "Diamond Showcase," an all-Indian baseball tournament that will be the first of it's kind in the state. Players may begin registering for a $25 fee that will include a jersey, belt and hat. When registration is complete, players will be drafted onto respective teams that will begin pool-play. The top four teams will then be placed in a single-elimination playoff. The top 20 players at the Diamond Showcase will then embark on an all expenses paid trip to Buffalo, NY for the 2nd Annual New Era Cap Baseball Classic as the tourney's only all-Indian team.

CMHI
Children's Mental Health Initiative

Protecting the Future
"NETTV-OREN VKETECETVN"

Program goals
- Expand access to services for children and adolescents through out the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.
- Offer individual services based on the child and family's situation.

Population of Focus
- Native American youth and their families who are struggling with an emotional issue and/or substance abuse.
- Infants and young adults from birth to 21 years.
- Children and youth involved with child welfare system.

We need your help!
- Help promote community involvement.
- Help us locate the children/youth in need.
- Inform other community members about CMHI.

For more information call (918) 224-9307
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Children's Mental Health Initiative

Contact Jason Salsman by phone at (918) 732 - 7644 or by e-mail at JSalsman@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

FROM THE SAME FIRE

DKing'09

2009

MUSCOGEE NATION FESTIVAL

Live Entertainment

BRANDY | june 19th

JAMES OTTO | june 20th

JOE DIFFIE | june 20th

June 18 - 21

Entries for the following must be submitted no later than Friday, May 29, 2009

Men's Basketball 3 on 3	**Sprint Williams**	*918-759-1219*
Youth Basketball 3 on 3	**Chad Smith**	*405-487-8864*
Golf Tournament	**Celesta Johnson**	*800-299-9458*
Horseshoes	**Liz Holata**	*918-732-7614*
Parade	**Melinda Deeringwater**	*918-759-4172*
Slow-Pitch Softball Tourn	**George Roach**	*918-458-0577*
Fast-Pitch Softball Tourn	**Skeet Bemo**	*918-344-0798*
Volleyball	**Billie Harjochee**	*918-732-7960*

Contact Rebecca Landsberry by phone at (918) 732 - 7743 or by E-mail at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

Renovations aim to attract locals and tourists

GAMING - A5

Education Spotlight: Glenpool Public Schools

PROGRAMS/

NOTICES - A8

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

MAY 2009
Volume 39, Issue 5
SEMI-MONTHLY

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

Posey honored at Capitol

• Portrait of Alexander Posey dedicated to Senate

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MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Pictured above is the unveiling of the rendering of Alexander Posey. The portrait by Mike Wimmer was uncovered publicly and dedicated during the Senate session. The portrait became a part of the Oklahoma Historical Paintings for the Oklahoma State Senate.

ALEX POSEY
Unveiled at Senate

OKLAHOMA CITY — Mike Wimmer's rendering of Alexander Posey was displayed during the Senate session. Attending the ceremony were descendants of Posey, MCN officials and the Senate.

The portrait was sponsored by the Muscogee (Creek) National Council and Sen. Jerry Smith. National Council Rep., Salina Jayne-Dornan of McIntosh District was the sponsor for the bill, which made the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's involvement with this project possible. Jerry Smith, who served as Senator for District 39 from 1981 to 2004, played an integral role in the dedication of the portrait.

Dornan said, "A citizen brought the project to my attention." From there she was able to contact those already working to get the painting completed. They were happy that the MCN became a sponsor for the historical painting. The Oklahoma Historical Paintings for the Oklahoma State Senate are viewable online at www.oksenate.gov.

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

"The Walk a Mile in Her shoes"

• Fashionable event aimed to raise awareness of sexual assault

Media Release
Family Violence Prevention Program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Family Violence Prevention Program sponsored a "Walk a Mile In Her Shoes" national awareness event on Fri., April 24 at 10 a.m., at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Complex.

Each participant, male or female, wore women's shoes or high heels throughout the designated mile-long route. The entry fee for participants was a donation of a health item or necessity for women and children such as deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, diapers, towels, children's underwear, shampoo feminine products.

Inspired by the old saying "You can't understand a person's experience until you have walked a mile in their shoes," courageous men (and women) across the country, boldly walked in the women's shoes.

Sexual assault is not just a women's issue and every time a man's voice joins those of women in speaking out against rape, the world becomes a safer place for all. It affects the men who care about them, their families, their friends, their coworkers and their communities.

Reports have uncovered some unnerving statistics regarding the topic, including the fact that every two minutes, someone in America is raped. One in six American women are victims of sexual assault during their lifetime.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE IS NOT OK!

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Pictured above are Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees and officials who participated in the "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" event on Fri., April 24 held at the MCN Tribal Complex.

That means someone you know, someone you care about, has been or may become the victim of sexual violence. It may be your mother, your sister, your friend, your girlfriend, your wife, your coworker or your daughter.

According to Muscogee (Creek) Nation Director of Community Services Dr. Danette McIntosh who spoke at the event, awareness is crucial for prevention of this silent crime.

"We all have a part in this. We need to be constantly aware about what sexual violence is. It's not just rape, it's all the different issues; whether it's harassment, intimidation, peeping, all kinds of things. We need to be aware, we need to be informed, we need to talk about it to our kids, our employees our families. Stand up and say, 'it's not acceptable,'" McIntosh said.

For more information on this event, or for a complete list of donation items needed by the Family Violence Prevention Program, please contact Denise McCrary at Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services at (918) 732-7869.

Chief prevails in request for preliminary injunction

Media Release
MCN Public Relations

OKMULGEE — On April 21, 2009, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court issued a decision on the court case of A.D. Ellis, in his official capacity as Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. Bristow Muscogee Indian Community, Checotah Muscogee Creek Indian Community, Duck Creek Indian Community, Eufaula Indian Community, Holdenville Creek Indian Community and Okemah Indian Community, Chartered Communities of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The following are excerpts of Court Case No. CV-2009-33 released on April 21, 2009.

SEE ORDER - A4

> *"...given the vast sums controlled by the Defendant Communities under the illegal and invalid "50/50 split" the Muscogee (Creek) people have been denied what is rightfully theirs under Federal law."*
>
> **- CV 09-33**
> *MCN District Court Order*

MCN Communications now offering 24-hour "News Tip Line"

by Starla Bush
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department now offers a 24-hour "News Tip Line." Though the Communications Department regularly covers events after-hours, this tip line may be used for breaking news updates. The lines are to be used after 5 p.m., Mon., through Fri., and anytime on weekends. As always, for news tips, story ideas or event coverage requests during office hours, citizens may contact the department at (918) 732-7720 Mon., through Fri., from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Tips will be given consideration for inclusion in all MCN media outlets. The two tip line numbers are (918) 894-9352 and (918) 894-9299. When calling the line, please include name, telephone number and event information and/or suggestion.

EXECUTIVE A2

From the Office of the Principal Chief

LEGISLATIVE A3

National Council minutes

JUDICIAL A4

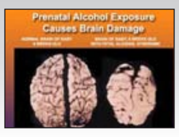
Legal notice: Service of Summons for Cynthia Lyn Salmon and Felix Caballero

BUSINESS/GAMING A5

Sponsorships available for 35th annual Muscogee Nation Festival

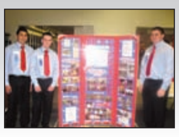
HEALTH A6

Today's Trail of Tears: The legacy of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome part III



EDUCATION A8

Dewar FCCLA students compete at national STAR competition



Communications Department - P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447

Muscogee Nation News
STAFF
Manager - Lucas Taylor
Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
Contributing Copy Editor - Kellen Bible
Senior Writer - Angel Ellis
Graphic Design - Carla Brown
Graphic Design - Tyler Roberds
Graphic Design - Crystal Lumpkin
Feature Writer - Gerald Wofford
Sports Writer - Jason Salsman
Reporter - Starla Bush
Reporter - Joshua Slane
Reporter - Jennifer Taryole
Advertising - Ruth Bible
Circulation - Wilma Murphy

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Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Letter from the Editor

Hensci readers, hope you bought a good pair of rain boots for last month. It's certainly not ideal for driving, but my little hydrangeas in the front yard certainly have enjoyed it.

Mother's Day is coming up on Sun., May 10, so be sure to tell your mothers, grandmothers, aunts, wives, sisters, nieces and all the special women in your life how much you love and appreciate them.

I could go on for a mile or two about the impact the women in my family have had on me. On both sides of my family I was surrounded by beautiful, intelligent and strong women who taught me that I really can do anything if I put in the time and effort to reach the goals I set for myself. I'm still amazed at the fact my mom was able to exhibit such a calm spirit even when dealing with me when I was throwing fits in the middle of the store or church. I hope I can do the same when I become a mother some day.

We are making some changes to the printing schedule and are working to put together an e-mail subscription list. If you would be interested in getting the MNN and/or Extra Edition through e-mail, send an e-mail with your name, address and roll number to MNN@muscogeenation-nsn.gov. There will be more information on this topic available soon! Mvto.

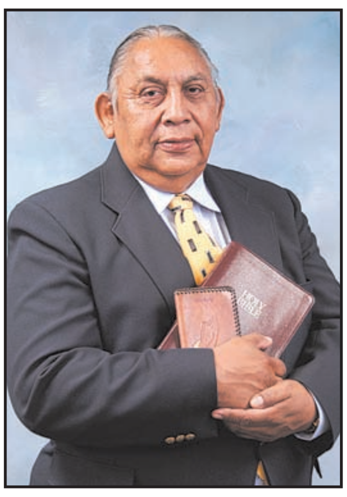
From the Office of the Second Chief

Second Opinion

Submitted April 28, 2009

HENSCI! In this month's *Second Opinion*, I would like to address two very important items for the Muscogee Creek Nation that come through the doors of my office. First, I will include the second quarter report of the Nation, which I gave to the Council and Creek citizens on April 25, 2009.

The second story would be to give an update on the continuing struggle and increasing usage of methamphetamine and the progress of the "Don't Let Meth Fool You!" campaign.



Second Chief Berryhill

FY 2009 SECOND QUARTER REPORT HIGHLIGHTS (Jan. 1 - March 31, 2009):

As of March 31, 2009, the total enrollment of Muscogee Creek citizens was 67,895.

On March 31, 2009, the Muscogee Creek Nation opened the doors to the new 300,000 sq. ft. River Spirit Casino located in Tulsa, Okla. The casino employs approximately 1300 people; of which 650 are new jobs brought to the City of Tulsa.

The River Spirit Casino has 2,745 high-tech electronic games, 24 table games and 15 poker tables. The facility features four world-class food and beverage venues including the largest casino buffet in Okla., a fine dining establishment, a 24 hour café and live entertainment six nights per week.

Personnel - Perry Anderson

-Reported 80 new hires

Housing - Ron Qualls

-73 contracts which include: 40 rehabilitated homes, 10 alternative homes, 23 new constructions

-Completion of 97 emergencies for Privately Owned Home Rehabilitation.

Food Distribution (eligible Native households served):

- January 2639
- February-2685
- March-2510

Community Services - Dr. Danette McIntosh

-Social Services

•Approved 1797 households

•Expended $806,192.00

Also under Dr. McIntosh's direction are Children & Family Services Administration, Community Research & Development, Office of Child Care and tribal TANF.

Higher Education – Chanenna Davis

-1,554 students funded by five programs totaling $1,511,082 and administered the Higher Education

Johnson O'Malley Program-Virginia Thomas

- FY 09 budget for 16,500 students is $60 per student

- Completed all 47 schools' JOM program monitoring visits with 94 percent in compliance

Human Development - Louis Hicks

- Employment and Training

- Tribal & Incentive Grant Program (approved vocational institutions) funded 109 students

- Incentive Grant funded 97 students (program completed w/ a minimum 3.0 GPA).

Tourism & Recreation - Cherokee Hicks

- The schedule for the 2009 Creek Nation Festival is complete.

- The department continues to meet with surrounding Native Nations and statewide agencies to explore tourism opportunities.

Tribal Affairs - Robert Miller

- 4-H Program has assisted 350-400 Creek youth with livestock and livestock shows.

- Federal Roads has completed the Will Sampson roadway in Preston

- Farm Operations have increased to 157 cows, 145 calves and seven bulls

- Natural Resources has recently cleared 50 acres of cedar and planted Bermuda grass

- Transportation is addressing the possible stimulus money by updating the fleet to include transports that will run on compressed natural gas.

- Tribal Construction has completed the Okmulgee Smoke Shop

- The Dental Clinic in Okemah is scheduled for completion in mid-May

- The architects for the Omniplex Multi-Purpose Building have finished the design development and have turned over drawings to the engineer for design of construction documents

- Grants submitted and pending for the quarter:

1. NAGPRA (Native American Graves Protection & Repatriation Act): (Data Base Collection for information gathering on remains and funerary objects in the homelands and to set up a model for eventual repatriation) submitted to the National Park Service. Amount: $89,986.(Hickory Ground will serve as the lead model for data collection and repatriation)

2. SMART Grant (Adam Walsh Act Department of Justice): Sex Offender Registry Program to set up the program within the MCN Lighthorse Department. Amount: $103,874.00

3. USDA (U.S. Department of Agric.) RBEG Grant. Amount: $300,000 for economic development (facilities) on 40-acre site

4. Researching and sharing information with directors on available Economic Stimulus (RECOVERY ACT) grants

Planner:

- Master Plan Committee: The Space programming needs for the client based services and the Executive Branch programs have been researched and compiled with current and future space needs prepared in professional report format.
- Provided Planning technical assistance and served on subcommittees on several other projects: on both open HUD ICDBG projects multipurpose building on Omniplex and tribal college building; Green Committee; CDFI Committee.

In a recent column, I indicated that we, the Muscogee Creek Nation, have taken on the battle with one of the most addictive drugs of our time. In order to confront this problem as a Nation, we must expand our base of knowledge as it relates to meth usage, production, crime and the devastating effects it has on the family.

Currently, our departments are meeting to devise a plan that will enable us to be effective when the need arises. The "Don't Let Meth Fool You!" campaign will keep our Creek citizens informed of the progress but your input is vital to the success of the ongoing battle with methamphetamine. Shortly, public service announcements will be aired on television, posters will be distributed and trainings will be conducted in the communities.

Please feel free to contact my office for further information. It is going to take all of us, together, to help one another combat this dilemma.

Sincerely,
Second Chief Alfred Berryhill

District Court filings for Dec. 2008 (continued)

Criminal Felonies:

MCN v. Lindsey England	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Teresa Tiger	Ct. 1: Fraud or False Pretenses
MCN v. Allison Hill	Ct. 1: Embezzlement
MCN v. Sandy Lindsey	Ct. 1: Embezzlement
MCN v. Ellie Mae Factor	Ct. 1: Embezzlement
	Ct. 2: Embezzlement
	Ct. 3: Embezzlement
MCN v. Tamrah Deo	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
	Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Ronald Cleghorn	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct

Traffic:

MCN v. William James	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Robert McIntosh	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Lisa Williams	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Michael Caves	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning, and Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Michael Caves	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. David Waller	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning, and Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. David Waller	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Lee Delatoree	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Lee Delatoree	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Judy Carson	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Seth Malone	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Seth Malone	Ct. 1: Transporting Open Container
MCN v. Seth Malone	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Seth Malone	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Seth Malone	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Stevan Brown	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Stevan Brown	Ct. 1: No Driver's License
MCN v. Sara Patterson	Ct. 1: Sale or Delivery of Tobacco Products to a minor child prohibited
MCN v. Michelle Vintaloro	Ct. 1: Sale or Delivery of Tobacco Products to a minor child prohibited
MCN v. Stephanie Perryman	Ct. 1: Sale or Delivery of Tobacco Products to a minor child prohibited
MCN v. Glenda Mosier	Ct. 1: Sale or Delivery of Tobacco Products to a minor child prohibited
MCN v. Trina Ramsey	Ct. 1: Sale or Delivery of Tobacco Products to a minor child prohibited
MCN v. Kimberly Kellogg	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Shannon Poteete	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Shannon Poteete	Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol
MCN v. Robert Havas	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Jaron Baker	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Keshia Crawford	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Damian Sheely	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Dennis Humphrey	Ct. 1: Expired Driver's License
MCN v. Frank Forrest	Ct. 1: Driving Under Suspension
MCN v. Frank Forrest	Ct. 1: Transporting Open Container
MCN v. Billy Walker	Ct. 1: No Driver's License
MCN v. Billy Walker	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Charles Ray	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Samuel Little	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning, and Stopping without regard to Safety
MCN v. Joseph Hunt	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Joseph Hunt	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Jimmy Ogle	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Jimmy Ogle	Ct. 1: Expired Tag

District Court filings for Jan. 2009

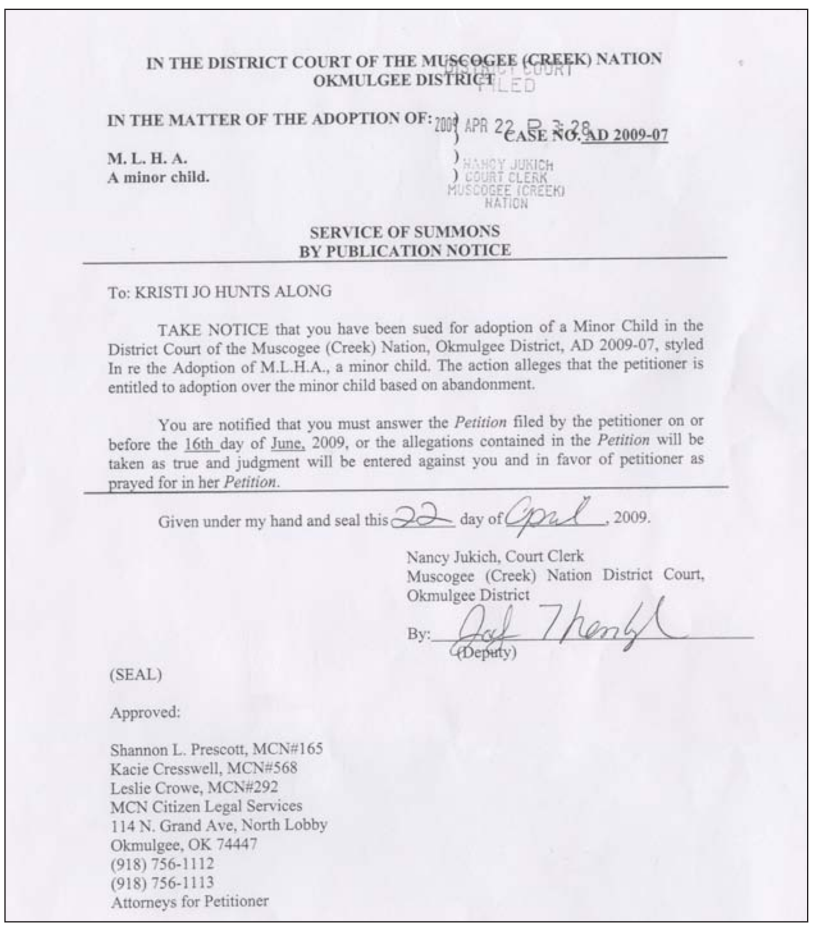
Civil:

Alexandria Marshall v. Rodell Alexander	Petition
Bell Finance v. Diana Beasley	Small Claims
Bell Finance v. Mandy Harjo	Small Claims
Sun Loan Company v. Robert Deer Jr.	Small Claims
Bonnie Yahola v. Irma Talamantes	Petition
Saber Acceptance Inc., v. Christie Smith	Petition
Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. Cash Jackpot, $2,500.00	Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture
Royal Finance v. Patricia Frye	Small Claims
Tulsa Adjustment Bureau v. Norma Thompson	Foreign Judgment

Divorce:

Joanna King v. William Petree	Divorce

Legal Notices (continued on A4)



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED
2009 APR 22 P 3:28
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF:) CASE NO. AD 2009-07

M. L. H. A.
A minor child.

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: KRISTI JO HUNTS ALONG

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for adoption of a Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, AD 2009-07, styled In re the Adoption of M.L.H.A., a minor child. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to adoption over the minor child based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner on or before the 16th day of June, 2009, or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 22 day of April, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By:
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

Approved:

Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kacie Cresswell, MCN#568
Leslie Crowe, MCN#292
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113
Attorneys for Petitioner

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE **MARCH 28, REGULAR SESSION**.

MARCH 28, REGULAR SESSION

REPRESENTATIVE **CHERRAH QUIETT** WAS EXCUSED. REPRESENTATIVE **KEEPER JOHNSON** WAS EXCUSED AT HIS DISCRETION.

VETO MESSAGE:

- MOTION TO LET THE VETO STAND FAILED (24-0-0) TR 09-006, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CUSTOMER AGREEMENT WITH WILDBLUE COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING COMMUNICATION AND INTERNET NEEDS FOR THE YEAGER HEAD START RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) TR 09-020, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE DIVISION OF HOUSING TO ENTER INTO LOCAL CO-OPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH THE VARIOUS COUNTIES LOCATED WITHIN THE JURISDICTIONAL BOUNDARIES OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) TR 09-022, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE SERVICE AGREEMENTS WITH VERIZON WIRELESS AND THEIR AUTHORIZED AGENTS FOR CELLULAR PHONE SERVICES SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS**

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) TR 09-023, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION TO BE DISPLAYED ON THE SITE AND/OR IN EXHIBIT GALLERIES OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN CULTURAL CENTER AND MUSEUM SPONSOR: **THOMAS YAHOLA**

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) TR 09-024, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH CAPITOL ONE FOR ATM SERVICES TO RIVER SPIRIT CASINO SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS**; CO-SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-035, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET MODIFICATION FOR THE DIVISION OF HOUSING SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-038, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 07-310 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN WITH MEDICAL EQUIPMENT) SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON**

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (15-9-0) NCA 09-041, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 22, CHAPTER 4 AND MCNCA TITLE 16 CHAPTER 1 TO RESTORE THE PREVIOUS LANGUAGE IN EACH TITLE AND CHAPTER ESTABLISHING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM AS AN INDEPENDENT AGENCY AND ESTABLISHING THE HEALTH SYSTEM BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND REPEALING NCA 09-028 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 22, CHAPTER 4 AND MCNCA TITLE 16, CHAPTER 1, CREATING THE MUSCOGEE CREEK NATION DIVISION OF HEALTH WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE NATION) SPONSOR: **KARA MEDINA**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DARRELL PROCTOR, PETE BEAVER, DAVID NICHOLS, KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE ANDERSON, JAMES JENNINGS, STEVE BRUNER, PAULA WILLITS** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT SUBSTITUTE BILL (18-6-0) NCA 09-042, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 11. COMMUNITIES EMETVLHVMKVKE, CHAPTER 4, CHARTERED COMMUNITY USE OF TRIBAL LANDS AND BUILDING, § 4-302. RIGHT OF RE-ENTRY SPONSOR: **SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **T. SCOTT; S. ADE; R. BARNETT; A. JONES III; E. LAGRONE; D. PROCTOR; L. WIND; K. MEDINA; C. TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS; S. ALEXANDER; R. CLEGHORN**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **PETE BEAVER, DAVID NICHOLS, KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE ANDERSON, JAMES JENNINGS** AND **PAULA WILLITS**.

- MOTION TO MOVE NCA 09-043 AND NCA 09-044 TO BOTTOM OF THE AGENDA (ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED) MOTION CARRIED.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-1-0) NCA 09-045, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A DONATION TO TWIN HILLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS SPONSOR: **JAMES JENNINGS**; CO-SPONSOR: **PETE BEAVER** ($10,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-3-0) NCA 09-047, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TEMPORARY PARKING LOT FOR THE RIVER SPIRIT CASINO SPONSOR: **STEVE BRUNER**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **S. ALEXANDER; P. BEAVER; P. WILLITS** ($3,525,960.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **ADAM JONES III, SHIRLENE ADE** AND **KARA MEDINA**.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-049, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MVSKOKE LANGUAGE PROGRAM-2009 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET SPONSOR: **JAMES JENNINGS** ($32,754.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **PAULA WILLITS** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) NCA 09-050, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS AWARDED TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION - TRANSIT PROGRAM SPONSOR: **ADAM JONES III** ($225,000.00)

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-051, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS AWARDED TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION-REINTEGRATION PROGRAM SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON**; CO-SPONSOR: **S. ADE; K. MEDINA** ($20,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **DAVID NICHOLS** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

- POSTPONED (23-0-0) NCA 09-054, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AT SECTION 1 OF ARTICLE V, §§ SECTION 1. (a) AND (c) SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE**

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-3-0) NCA 09-055, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION RISK MANAGEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A GEOSPATIAL DEPARTMENT SPONSOR: **DAVID NICHOLS** ($211,333.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **EDDIE LAGRONE; JAMES JENNINGS** AND **RON CLEGHORN**.

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION NATIONAL COUNCIL
Session Palen - Cahkepohkaken (15)
2008-2009

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-1-0) NCA 09-056, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST DEWAR PUBLIC SCHOOLS SPONSOR: **CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS** ($12,134.50)

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-1-0) NCA 09-057, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST IN SPONSORING THE 7TH ANNUAL OKLAHOMA NATIVE AMERICAN YOUTH LANGUAGE FAIR SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **R. HUFFT; K. MEDINA; L. WIND** ($1,500.00)

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-1-0) NCA 09-059, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) STUDENT IN PARTICIPATING IN THE NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED PEOPLE TO PEOPLE STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAM SPONSOR: **SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN**; CO-SPONSOR: **ADAM JONES III** ($2,819.50)

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-1-0) NCA 09-060, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) STUDENT IN PARTICIPATING IN THE NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED PEOPLE TO PEOPLE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM SPONSOR: **CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS** ($844.00)

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-061, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 21, § 4-102 (F), "STIPENDS/MILEAGE" TO ADJUST STIPEND RATES SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **R. CLEGHORN; S. ALEXANDER**

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-1-0) NCA 09-064, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN WITH MEDICAL EXPENSES SPONSOR: **LENA WIND** ($5,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

REPRESENTATIVE **KEEPER JOHNSON** WAS EXCUSED. THEREFORE, 23 PRESENT AND 3 ABSENT.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (19-3-0) NCA 09-043, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR PHASE III OF THE HANNA INDIAN COMMUNITY GARDEN/FARM PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF THE HANNA INDIAN COMMUNITY GARDEN/FARM PROJECT PROGRAM INCOME TO THE HANNA INDIAN COMMUNITY SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **S. J-DORNAN; A. JONES III** ($82,389.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **LARRY CAHWEE, BILL FIFE** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) NCA 09-044, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE** ($5,673,691.00)

Seeking nominees for 2009 Living Legends

by Thompson Gouge
MCN Public Relations

OKMULGEE — The 35th Annual Creek Festival is seeking nominees for the Living Legends ceremony that will honor two tribal citizens who have devoted many years to the betterment of the Creek citizens. Several citizens have done great things and never have received recognition. This is an opportunity to honor them while they are living.

Two individuals will be selected by a committee from nominations. The committee will consist of the Principal Chief, Second Chief, Speaker of the National Council, all Creek Nation Directors, the Executive Director and the Judicial Branch Judge. All committee members must also be enrolled Creek citizens.

Nominees must be a Creek citizens, at least 55 years of age who have devoted many years to the betterment of the Creek people or Creek Nation government in areas such as art, crafts, politics, education, and ceremonial/religious leaders.

The committee will select two individuals from submitted nominees and honor them during a ceremony on Fri., June 19 at 5:30 p.m., on the local stage at the Claude Cox Omniplex.

All nominees must be submitted to the Office of the Principal Chief at: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Deadline: Wed., May 27, 2009.

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JUDICIAL

Order

Continued from A1

On Feb. 27, 2009 the Principal Chief filed the instant action seeking injunctive relief and an accounting in order to restore national management and/or financial control to the Nation of six (6) gaming facilities, owned by the Nation, within the territory and boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, on land held in trust by the United States for the perpetual benefit of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Some of the gaming facilities had previously been under the management or control of the Defendants pursuant to "Facility Use Agreements" between the Nation and the Defendants. The above mention communities benefitted from the "Facility Use Agreements"' expressed terms in that they retained one-half of the net gaming revenues originating at the gaming facilities situated on land mention in the Facility Use Agreement.

After careful consideration of these facts and evidence added at the hearing, the Court finds the Plaintiff Principal Chief acted in accordance with his Constitutional and statutory authority as Chief executive, deemed conditions extant at the various gaming facilities were sufficiently compelling to invoke Re-entry.

No evidence was introduced to persuade the Court that the required tax liability notices in the form of IRS Forms 1099 were ever issued to the beneficiaries of these payments as required under the above cited federal statute. Thus, such payments imperil the Nation's continued ability to conduct gaming at these facilities while subjecting the Nation to federal civil fines.

The Court finds that the status quo revenue sharing scheme under the purported Agreements in which the affected Communities were contractually entitled to fifty per cent (50%) of the proceeds from the various facilities, which they in turn doled out to various individuals and entities without benefit of an approved Revenue Allocation Plan constituted illegal per capita payments. Such disbursements are patently illegal under the Federal Indian Regulatory Act and therefore void and properly enjoined.

The Court further finds that any per capita payments to individuals or entities pursuant to an approved Revenue Allocation Plan must be the exclusive prerogative of the Nation and not a decision left to a small political subdivision of Creek citizens comprising a Chartered Community.

The National Indian Gaming Commission wields the hammer and its interpretation of "sole proprietary interest" controls any contrary profit sharing scheme in force in this Nation must yield to Federal authority or subject the Nation to substantial civic fines under the Federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. Moreover, legislation enacted by the National Council, now or in the future, to permit the "50-50 Split" revenue sharing scheme cannot save it because it is not permitted under the Federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

Purely as a matter of law, the court is unable to fathom how a scheme in which one half of net proceeds from a particular Creek Gaming site becomes property of a specific Community of a minority of Creek Citizens to dispose of as they decide, while leaving the other half to the 67,895 citizen Nation, does not violate the Federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act's expressed terms.

The Court also notes that "profit sharing" and per capita payments at the Defendants Communities continue to place the Nation at risk of substantial National Indian Gaming Commission fines.

The Muscogee (Creek) People have great interest in seeing upheld the laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the United States. Given the civil penalties for mismanagement under the controlling federal law would be borne by all Muscogee (Creek) citizens, not merely the Defendants, the Muscogee (Creek) People are best served by National management control of the subject gaming facilities and all gaming revenues from same. Moreover, given the vast sums controlled by the Defendant Communities under the illegal and invalid "50/50 Split." The Muscogee (Creek) People have been denied what is rightfully theirs under Federal Law.

Moreover, traditionally, the Mvskokvlke shared equally in all aspects of life. All people were treated equally and tribal land was communally held for the benefit of all.

The partitioning of a particular area of tribal land for the benefit of a few citizens, while denying the majority the full bounty of that land as "50/50 Split" so clearly does, contradicts the ancient customs and traditions of the Muscogee (Creek) People who, from time immemorial, recognized only communal stewardship of tribal land and resources.

The Court orders that monies originating from the gaming revenues at each Defendants Community shall be placed by the Comptroller in separate escrow accounts, and shall be insured by pledge Treasury bills for all sums exceeding the amounts insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporate (FDIC). Accordingly, the Defendants relief is denied.

Bristow Muscogee Indian Community, Checotah Muscogee Creek Indian Community, Duck Creek Indian Community, Eufaula Indian Community, Holdenville Creek Indian Community and Okemah Indian Community, Chartered Communities of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

1) an accounting from each Defendant of all gaming revenues and expenses derived and expended from each gaming facility beginning with fiscal year 2002 through the present date;

2) preliminary injunctive relief in which the Defendants are barred from the interference with Plaintiff and his lawful agents, employees and delegates in the execution and actions authorized by Executive Orders No. 09-04 through 09-09;

3) preliminary Injunctive relief in which the Defendants are barred from using, spending, dispersing or secreting any funds, accounts, or proceeds of gaming revenues pending the above accounting and other orders of this court;

4) all accrued gaming revenue held by the Defendants shall be escrowed by the Comptroller and secured by U.S. Treasury bills for sums exceeding the amounts insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), and;

5) preliminary injunctive relief in which the defendants are barred from altering, destroying or secreting financial and community records of any kind regarding the operation of gaming facilities.

Letters to the Editor

Citizen comments on article

I would appreciate the opportunity to make one small correction regarding the monthly column, "From the Office of the Principal Chief" which was in the April, 2009 edition of the Muscogee Nation News.

Mr. Ellis makes reference to "cars and T-shirts around Eufaula (that) say, 'Impeach Chief Ellis.'' Neither my car nor my T-shirts say CHIEF Ellis, only 'Impeach Ellis' or 'Impeach A. D. Ellis.' I NEVER refer to him as my Chief. I do not believe Ellis truly won the last election; therefore, I do not believe Ellis IS the Chief and I do not refer to him as such. Thank you.

- Lawanta Gaye Thompson

Thank you for Housing

I would like to publicly recognize and give appreciation to our Principal Chief, A.D. Ellis and Okmulgee National Council Representative, David Nichols, for their combined efforts in working with the MCN Housing Authority to provide us a house. Without them, we might still be waiting and living in substandard housing.

The house we lived in had limited electrical outlets and I was afraid of overloading the circuits when my husband had to use his medical equipment. Now there is no need to worry in the remodeled house we live in now. I feel as though they literally saved his life.

So, to let you know how excited we were, if you have ever watched the series, "extreme home makeover," and shared in the excitement and joy the new homeowners express when the host says, "Move that Bus", you will know how we felt when the housing inspector gave us our keys and said, "you can move in anytime."

The house has become our "home", and there are not enough words to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to Chief Ellis, David Nichols, and the MCN housing authority staff.

We thank the Lord for people such as yourselves, that so willingly did everything within your capabilities to provide us a house. May the Lord bless your future endeavors in serving the Muscogee Creek People.

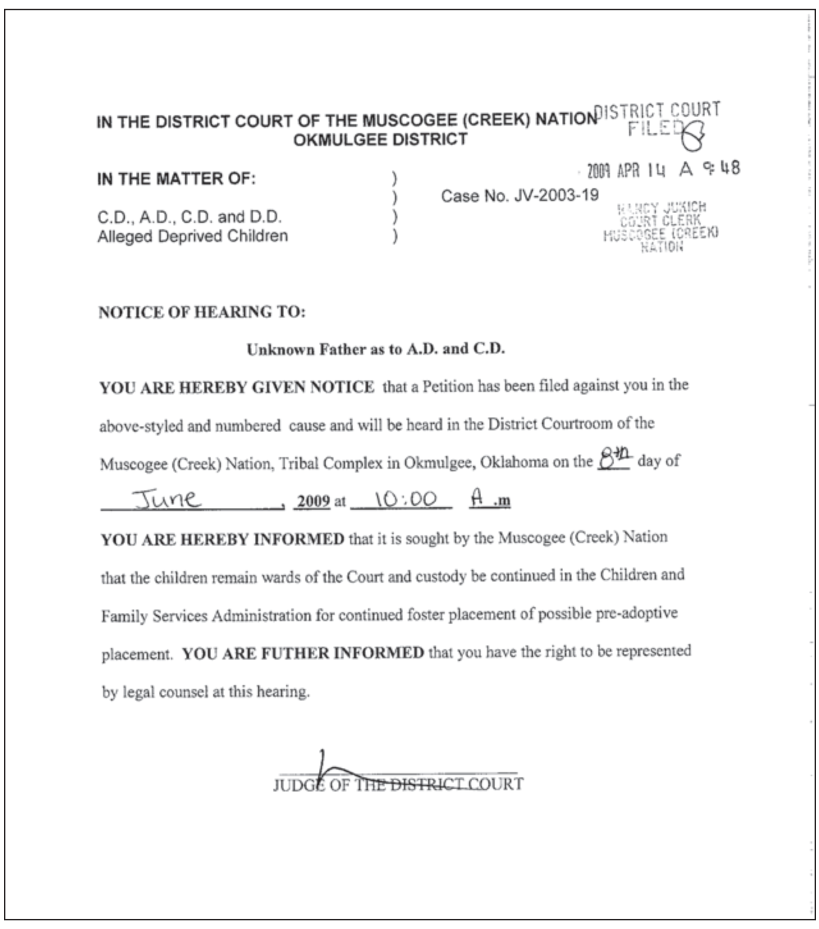
- Susanna Barnett/Elliot Barnett

District Court filings for January 2009

(continued from A2)

Tulsa Adjustment Bureau v. Norma Thompson	Foreign Judgment
Divorce:	
Joanna King v. William Petree	Divorce
Shonda Hartley v. Michael Hartley	Divorce
Kristal Bagby v. Eric Bagby II	Divorce
Joan Shepherd v. James Dickerson	Divorce
Diana Kline v. David Kline	Divorce
Amanda Soliday v. Ted Soliday	Divorce
Christina Thetford v. Cameron Thetford	Divorce
Amber Dearman v. Jeremy Dearman	Divorce
Loper Jones v. Angela Jones	Divorce
Adrienne Bowers v. Michael Bowers	Divorce
Tommy Anderson Jr., v. Henia Anderson	Divorce
Zack Pickering v. Lydia Pickering	Divorce
Family Domestic:	
TCSS, ex rel., Mark Bell Jr., v. Lydia Taylor	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Erika Dutcher v. Keith Nelson	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Kimberly Hall v. Michael Kennedy	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Dana Hagan v. Aaron Berry	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Amanda Campbell v. Robert Martin	Child Support
Ex-Parte:	
Dorothy Burden v. Al Berryhill	Ex-Parte
Cheryl Bartosh v. Al Berryhill	Ex-Parte
Floyd Harjo v. Edna Harjo	Ex-Parte
Mary Ann Solorzano v. Joshua Pascale	Ex-Parte
Amber Dearman v. Jeremy Dearman	Ex-Parte
Criminal Misdemeanors:	
MCN v. Eugenia Gaches	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check
MCN v. Shelley Yargee	Ct. 1: Malicious Mischief
	Ct. 2: Breaking and Entering
MCN v. Marsha Harjo	Ct. 1: False Application
MCN v. Rachael July	Ct. 1: False Application
MCN v. Ronald Cleghorn	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Mary Soloranzo	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check
Criminal Felonies:	
MCN v. Tina Decke	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal
Drugs	
	Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
MCN v. Timothy Bruner	
Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs	
Traffic:	
MCN v. Hannah Busch	Ct. 1: Duties in Event of an Accident
MCN v. Linda Berna	
Ct. 1: Expired Tag	
MCN v. Torre Dela	
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct	
MCN v. Travis Miller	
Ct. 1: No Insurance	

Legal Notices (con't from A2)



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED
2009 APR 14 A 9:48
NANCY JUKICH COURT CLERK MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

IN THE MATTER OF:) Case No. JV-2003-19
C.D., A.D., C.D. and D.D.)
Alleged Deprived Children)

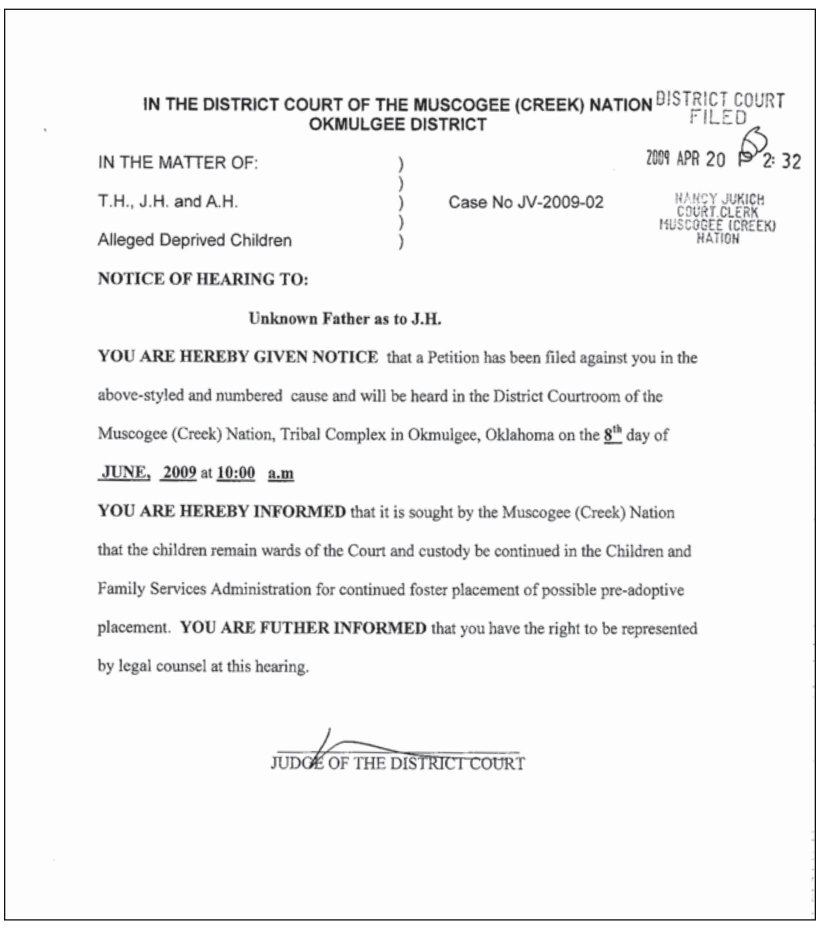
NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Unknown Father as to A.D. and C.D.

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 8th day of June, 2009 at 10:00 A.m

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED
2009 APR 20 P 2:32
NANCY JUKICH COURT CLERK MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

IN THE MATTER OF:)
T.H., J.H. and A.H.) Case No JV-2009-02
Alleged Deprived Children)

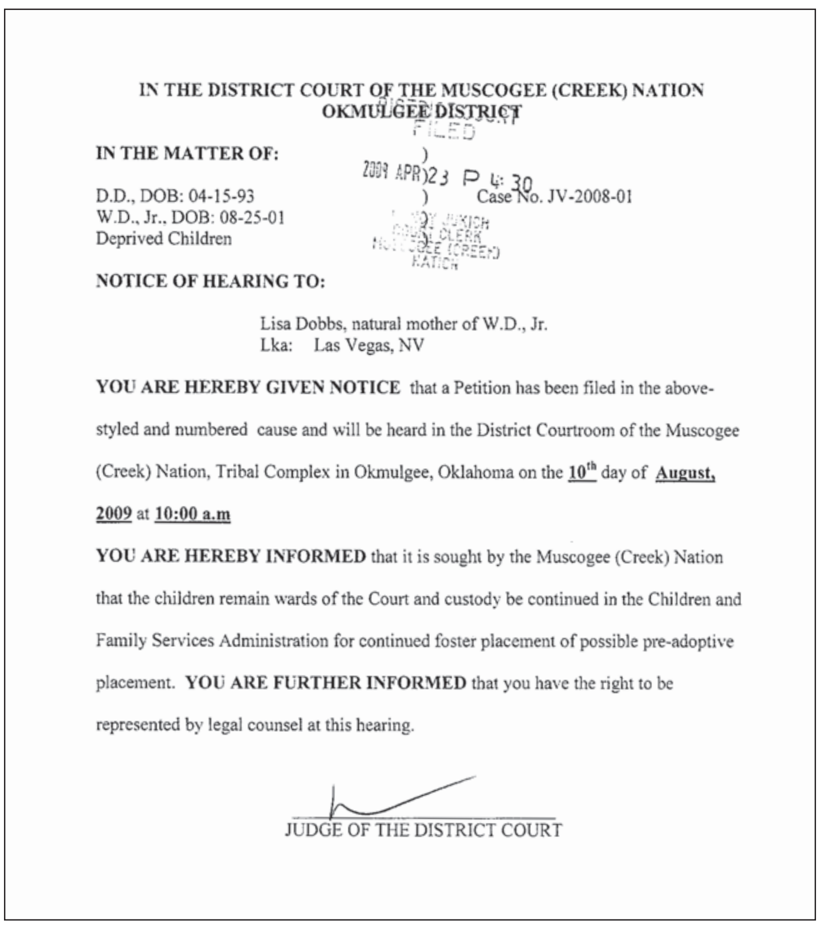
NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Unknown Father as to J.H.

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the **8th** day of **JUNE, 2009** at **10:00 a.m**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

FILED
2009 APR 23 P 4:30

IN THE MATTER OF:)
D.D., DOB: 04-15-93) Case No. JV-2008-01
W.D., Jr., DOB: 08-25-01
Deprived Children

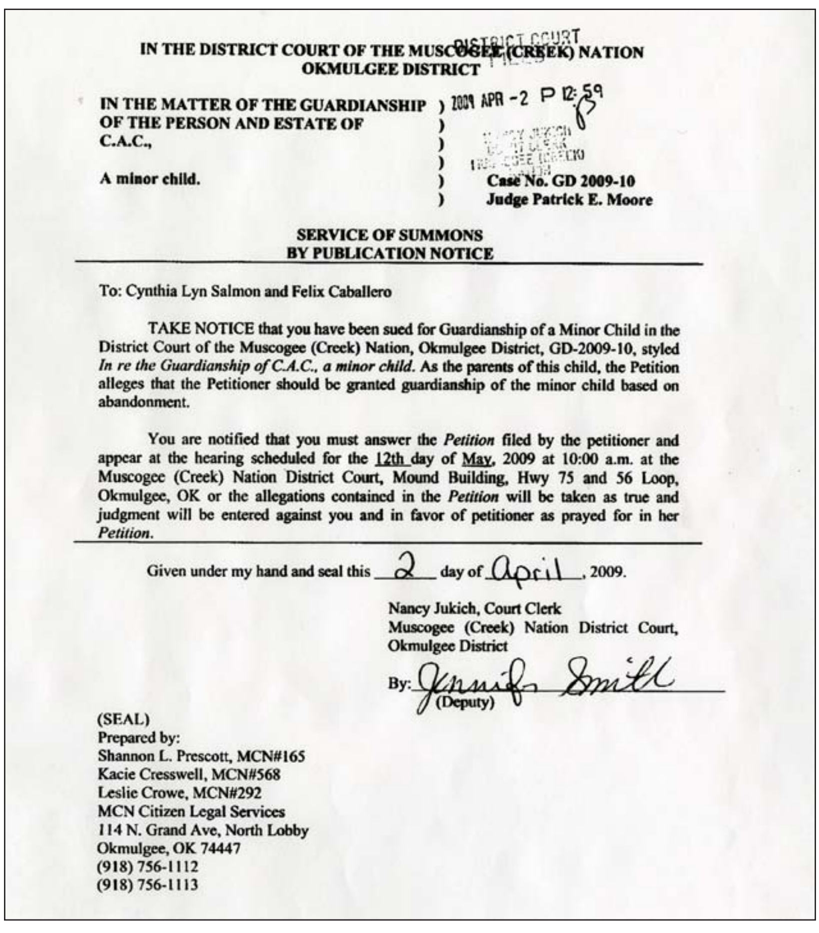
NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Lisa Dobbs, natural mother of W.D., Jr.
Lka: Las Vegas, NV

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition has been filed in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the **10th** day of **August, 2009** at **10:00 a.m**

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FURTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED
2009 APR -2 P 12:59

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP)
OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE OF)
C.A.C.,)
A minor child.) Case No. GD 2009-10
) Judge Patrick E. Moore

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Cynthia Lyn Salmon and Felix Caballero

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for Guardianship of a Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD-2009-10, styled *In re the Guardianship of C.A.C., a minor child.* As the parents of this child, the Petition alleges that the Petitioner should be granted guardianship of the minor child based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner and appear at the hearing scheduled for the 12th day of May, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Mound Building, Hwy 75 and 56 Loop, Okmulgee, OK or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition.*

Given under my hand and seal this 2 day of April, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By: Jennifer Smith
(Deputy)

(SEAL)
Prepared by:
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kacie Cresswell, MCN#568
Leslie Crowe, MCN#292
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113

Spirit celebrates one month

• Tulsa doled out gifts, cash and live entertainment

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Pictured above is one of the many free shuttles provided by the River Spirit for patrons visiting the new facility which recently celebrated its Grand Opening Weekend May 1-3.

RIVER SPIRIT Casino

EXCITEMENT Continues at the Spirit

TULSA – Since the moment the doors opened, The River Spirit Casino was a hit. River Spirit Casino gave back to the patrons with their Grand Opening Weekend Celebration May 1-3.

The weekend kicked off Fri., May 1, where the first 3,000 guests received a River Spirit Casino commemorative chip as a free gift. The excitement continued with a chance to win a limited edition 2010 Chevrolet Camaro, as well as 19 other cash prizes. At 9 p.m., Derek Sholl performed a variety of country favorites in the Mystic River Lounge.

On Sat., May 2, the first annual River Spirit Derby ran from 2-7 p.m., with a chance to win $500 cash. That evening, the Mystic River Lounge rocked when the Grammy Award-winning Blues Traveler hit the stage with a free, live performance at 9 p.m.

The weekend wrapped up on Sun., May 3 with Greg Miller's Tribute to Elvis. There were two great performances beginning at 10 a.m., and another at 2 p.m., bringing the powerful voice, dazzling energy and youthful good looks of Elvis at his peak. **MNN**/*Angel Ellis*

Renovations at Fountainhead aim to attract locals and tourists

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

EUFAULA — Since the acquisition of Fountainhead Resort and Golf Course, there have been changes in progress. Some of the work is concentrating on aesthetics while a large portion of these major renovations are fundamental repairs and improvements. Even the name has been officially changed to "Fountainhead Creek Golf Course." Most importantly, there are some upgrades to customer service equipment as well.

On the functional side of the renovations, visitors may notice the improved irrigation system. Nearly 56 miles of pipe are being placed in order to better service the grounds. Michael Wisner, CEO of Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Trade & Commerce Authority said, "Many of the holes have not been reworked in quite a long time and it's important that we get them up to in order before going into the next steps."

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Pictured above is the ProShop at the Fountainhead Golf Course. This photo was taken in the late winter while renovations where in progress in several areas of the course.

There has been a measured degree of eye-pleasing work taking place. "Hole 3", which will become the signature hole of the course, is undergoing a major face lift that will include a cascading waterfall-type structure and a landscaped rock wall. Once golfers reach Hole 3, they will also be able to take advantage of the wonderful view of Lake Eufaula which neighbors the course. When complete, the hole will the defining hole of the Fountainhead Creek Golf course, but it's only one of many with a scenic view.

Another added amenity to the course are the 60 new carts which make golfing a breeze for pros and amateurs alike. Currently, the course can handle a 120-person tournament with as little notice as five days.

Fountainhead Creek is currently grand fathering in membership. There are special discounts for Muscogee (Creek) citizens and the resident Pro offers golfing lessons, upon request. Family memberships are also available. For more information call (918) 689-3209 or visit the Fountainhead Creek Web site at: http://www.fountainhead-golf.com/.

Sponsorships available for 35th annual Muscogee Nation Festival

by Brian On-The-Hill
Tourism and Recreation

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival invites all people to celebrate the culture and heritage of the Muscogee people. The Festival provides thousands of people the opportunity to visit with one another, renew friendships, and create new friendships as well.

Celebrating its 35th year and renowned for exciting entertainment and numerous activities, the Festival is host to over 20,000 spectators and participants, cultural activities, outstanding entertainers, an open rodeo, sports tournaments, a parade through historic downtown Okmulgee, an art show on the Creek Council House Museum lawn, scholarship pageant, a children's fun fair and activities for senior citizens.

Because the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is a large contributor to the economy of Oklahoma, we feel that the MCN Festival is the perfect opportunity for everyone to come together and celebrate our efforts in making positive accomplishments throughout the year. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Committee invites any and all parties interested in joining the celebration to become a sponsor of the MCN Festival. Sponsorships are available at several different levels and the Festival Committee is open to developing one that fits best with your company or organization.

For more information or to become a sponsor, please contact The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Tourism & Recreation at (918) 732-7993 or toll-free at (800) 482-1979. Thank you for your consideration of becoming a 2009 MCN Festival sponsor. Please make all contributions payable to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Committee.

FROM THE SAME FIRE
2009
MUSCOGEE NATION FESTIVAL

Senior Services offering summer lawn assistance for seniors

by Jackson Barnett
MCN Senior Services

OKMULGEE — The Mvskoke Creek Nation Senior Services Program will again offer the lawn-cutting / tree-trimming service to Mvskoke senior citizens.

The service will be available beginning Fri., May 1, 2009 and end Sept. 30. This five-month period should enable the team to finish more yards than last year when they completed 88 yards in the span of only 26 days.

Like last year, senior services will schedule a number of yards in one community or town for each work day. This will prevent the team from traveling from one area to another that may be many miles away, which can be very time consuming.

Those requesting assistance through this program are asked to police their yards of paper, bricks, boards, diapers, clothes hangers and other items that may hinder work time and save the equipment from damage.

The service is set up to help our Creek senior citizens, 55 years and older, who may be unable to do this type of work for themselves or who cannot pay for such work.

Names will continue to be taken throughout the summer. To submit contact information including name, address and phone number, please contact Jackson Barnett at (918) 732 - 7723.

JOIN US **MAY 10th FROM 3pm-8pm** FOR OUR
MOTHERS DAY CELEBRATION
DRAWINGS WILL BE HELD EVERY HOUR FROM 4PM UNTIL 8PM
CREEK NATION Casino
OKMULGEE
HWY 75 @ EUFAULA ST. • (918)756-8400
www.cncokmulgee.com
THIS FACILITY IS REGULATED BY THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OFFICE OF PUBLIC GAMING

HUD - 184 Native American Mortgage Program
Need Cash Refinance
Other Programs also available - 100% financing no money down
GOOD CREDIT, BAD CREDIT OR BANKRUPTCY WE CAN HELP
Special Native American Financing Department Bilingual. Call today for quality. A for a 184 Loan Officer. W.A.C
HOMESTEAD Mortgage Services, Inc
"Tahlequa's oldest and most experianced lender"
Erb Kimble
Office: 918-456-5599
Cell: 918-348-1074
Toll Free: 800-259-2455
171 W. Fourth Street - Tahlequah, OK 74464

Today's Trail of Tears:

• The legacy of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome part III

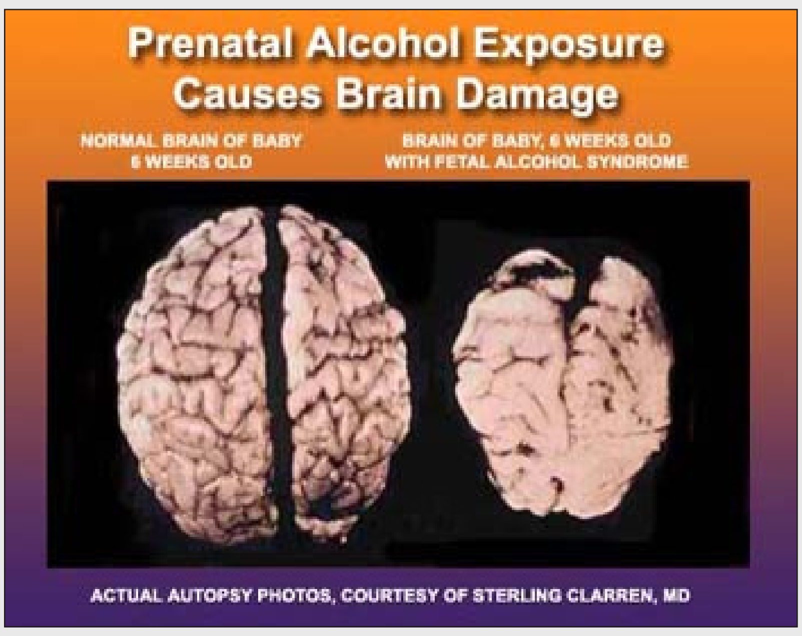
Mental Health Problems 93%	Disrupted School Experience 42%	Trouble with the Law 41%	Confinement 33%
Inappropriate Sexual Behavior 43%	Alcohol & Drug Problems 37%	Dependent Living 83%	Employment Problems 79%

◆ = Age 6+ ◆ = Age 12+ ◆ = Age 21+

Percent of FAE Population with Secondary Problems. Research by SAMHSA FASD Center for Excellence, for more information, visit: fasdcenter.samhsa.gov.

by Dan Cross
Keetoowah Cherokee Treatment Services

TULSA — This publication has taken to the task of examining a highly prevalent, damaging, yet preventable health problem among our people, Fetal Alcohol/Drug Syndrome. In the first two articles we have looked at the prevalency of FA/DS and signs and symptoms.


Prenatal Alcohol Exposure Causes Brain Damage
NORMAL BRAIN OF BABY 6 WEEKS OLD
BRAIN OF BABY, 6 WEEKS OLD WITH FETAL ALCOHOL SYNDROME
ACTUAL AUTOPSY PHOTOS, COURTESY OF STERLING CLARREN, MD

In this issue we are looking at the impact of FA/DS on individuals, on families, and our people as a whole. We will look at what FA/DS "costs" in terms of dollars, pain and suffering, and comprehensive services.

Dr. Rizwan Shah, Director of the Family Ecology Center in Des Moines, Iowa, estimated that in 1994 the lifetime cost of each child born with FAS was 2.4 million dollars. Imagine how much that would be in today's inflated dollars. The health care costs for individuals with FA/DS can be staggering. If special facilities are needed, they are extremely costly. Special education costs are very high, especially if the individual needs to be placed in a special care facility.

School performance, employability, criminal activity, family dysfunction, successive generations of substance abuse, etc., are all affected. No single factor has contributed to the demise of native people since their removal from their ancient tribal lands of their ancestors. The rampant incidence of FAE among Native Americans is truly today's Trail of Tears – except this time the native people are leading themselves down the trail. In what ways does FA/DS impact our people?

Look at the table of statistics above to see what percent of people diagnosed with FA/DS are affected by the various categories:

The percent of these people suffering from each of these categories of problems is astounding. Looking further into one of the categories, we find the leading cause of developmental disorders.

FA/DS is the leading cause of mental retardation and other developmental disabilities. Prenatal alcohol exposure causes brain damage. Alcohol can damage the developing brain in a number of ways. The brain may be smaller than normal or may have missing or underdeveloped portions, such as the corpus callosum.

The corpus callosum connects the two hemispheres of the brain, allowing the left and right sides to communicate with each other. It is necessary for advanced thought processes such as abstract thinking, logic, and sequential thought. Prenatal alcohol exposure can cause thinning or complete absence of the corpus callosum. These abnormalities have been linked to deficits in attention, intellectual function, reading, learning, verbal memory, and executive and psychosocial functioning.

It is clear from this severe brain damage that a person suffering from FAS will be mentally impaired, but several physical disabilities result as well. This cluster of problems and disorders requires an expensive, comprehensive system of care, a variety of services throughout the child's life.

The devastation to the brain is visible in autopsies. Notice, in the above photo comparison, the affected FA/DS brains (right) are grossly deformed and smaller than normal brains (left).

"We have to do something about what we are doing to our babies' brains," vowed Shirlene Ade, National Council Representative, Tukvpvtce District. Ade challenged, "Our people must act to stop this path that we are on. We need to do this through treatment and prevention. This requires us to stand up as individuals and as a tribe to take responsibility and act."

The following are Native American treatment centers in or near the Muscogee Creek Nation service area:

- MCN Behavioral Health Services - 1313 E. 20th Okmulgee (918) 758-1910
- Koweta Indian Health Facility (MCN) - 31870 East Hwy 51, Coweta (918)279-3200
- Indian Health Care Resource Center - 550 S. Peoria Avenue, Tulsa 918-588-1900
- Keetoowah Cherokee Treatment Services – 2727 E Admiral Pl, Tulsa, I-244 at Delaware, 918-835-3017

"What can I do?"

Everyone can do something! Check out action items below to see what you can do:

- Call your Community Health Representative at (918) 623-1925 or 1-888-756-9266 or search the internet or library to find out more. Education is key to prevention.
- Don't drink when trying to conceive children or while pregnant. Don't have unprotected sex while drinking.
- The tribal community is sacred. Community requires that we look out for one another. We prosper or decline as a people. Encourage young prospective mothers to abstain from alcohol and drugs.
- Educate yourself and others. Be armed with the facts, and help pass the word.

A great people respect the wisdom of their elders and the new life yet to come.

TREATING
DRUG & ALCOHOL ABUSE
IN ADULTS
Best clinical practices in the dignity & respect of tribal tradition.
Specializing in painkiller & meth addictions

Keetoowah Cherokee Treatment Services
Tulsa
918-835-3017
kctxs.com

Quapaw Counseling Services
Oklahoma City
405-672-3033
qcs-okc.com
Miami
918-542-1786
quapawcounselingservices.com

HEALTHNOTES

Sugar substitutes: the Aspartame controversy

by Tamara Lambert, RN
Eufaula Diabetes Educator/Coordinator

EUFAULA — **continued from April's issue :**

So you might ask, "What is considered a safe amount of aspartame?" Guidelines were established by food safety authorities worldwide and an acceptable daily intake was made. The acceptable daily intake (ADI) defined by the National Cancer Institute, is the amount of substance that can be consumed daily over a lifetime without noticeable health risk to a person on the basis of all the known facts at the time of the evaluation. A safe value of consumption according to the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives is 40 milligrams per kilogram of body weight daily and the FDA has set its ADI for aspartame at 50 mg/kg. A 12 ounce can of diet soda contains 180mg of aspartame, and one liter of aspartame-sweetened soda contains 600mg aspartame. That would mean that a 165 lb adult (75 kilograms) would have to drink 21 cans of diet soda daily to no longer be at a safe level. The FDA figures show that most aspartame users only consume about 4 to 7 percent of the acceptable daily intake.

Based on government research, aspartame has been found to be safe for human consumption by more than ninety countries world-wide. In 1999, FDA scientists described the safety of aspartame as "clear cut" and stated that the product is "one of the most thoroughly tested and studied food additives the agency has ever approved."

Eating for a Healthy Heart

by Christian Dixion, RD, LD
Eufaula Diabetes Dietitian

OKMULGEE — Most of us know someone who has suffered from a heart attack. This is not surprising, as heart disease is the number one killer of Americans. You can make some small changes to improve your diet and reduce your risk of heart disease. Here are some tips:

Eat lots of fruits and vegetables.

Choose whole grain and high fiber foods such as whole grain bread, pasta, cereal, and rice.

Have fish twice a week. Fatty fish like lake trout, herring, sardines, albacore tuna and salmon are a good source of omega-3 fatty acids. Omega-3 fatty acids can decrease the risk for arrhythmias, slow the growth of plaque on artery walls, lower triglycerides, and can even slightly reduce blood pressure.

Choose lean meats. Cuts of meat ending in "loin" have less fat. Limit processed meats like bacon, sausage, and hot dogs.

Choose skim or 1percent milk and other low-fat dairy items.

Try to avoid trans fats. To know if a food has trans fat, look for the word "hydrogenated" in the ingredients list.

Cook with canola or olive oil.

Limit salt in your diet.

Only consume alcohol in moderation.

Choose foods and beverages with less sugar.

Maintain a healthy weight. Try having smaller portions and increasing the amount of fruits and vegetables you eat.

Summer Youth Diabetes Prevention Camps 2009

by Kimberlee Little, MEd, CPT
Eufaula Exercise Programs Manager

OKMULGEE — The Community Diabetes Prevention Program for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will offer five different four day Summer Youth Camps that stress healthy lifestyles and diabetes prevention. The first three days will include diabetes prevention education, cultural activities, good food and FUN. The last day will be a field trip to BIG SPLASH in Tulsa, Okla.

These camps will be FREE to any American Indian youth 10-15 years of age. Campers must have a chart at one of the Creek Nation clinics or have a CDIB card. Each camp will take the first 35 youth to sign up and priority will be given to first time campers. Listed is the contact for each clinic area.

Okemah Clinic Area Youth Camp will be July 13 – 16, for more information contact Irene Culley at (918) 636-8735.

Okmulgee Clinic Area Youth Camp will be July 20 – 23, for more information contact William Fixico at (918) 637-9683.

Eufaula Clinic Area Youth Camp will be July 27 – 30, for more information contact Kimberlee Little at (918) 637-9684.

Koweta Clinic Area Youth Camp will be July 28 - 31, for more information contact Taylor Thompson at (918) 807-1561.

Sapulpa Clinic Area Youth Camp will be Aug. 3 – 6, for more information contact Duane Meadows at (918) 695-1325.

Spring into activity this season

by Taylor Thompson
Exercise Programs Manger, Koweta Clinic

KOWETA — Winter has come and passed and spring is finally here. Spring in Oklahoma offers some exciting opportunities to get outside and be active. After being cooped up inside for the entire winter it is refreshing to go outside and get some much needed fresh air. Here are a few ways for anyone to get active this spring.

Go for a walk: Walking is a gentle, low-impact exercise that can ease you into a higher level of fitness and health. It's one of your body's most natural forms of exercise. It's safe, simple, doesn't require practice, and the health benefits are many. Walking can be done with the whole family and it is a great way to shed that "winter weight."

Trail Hiking: There are many hiking trails all over Oklahoma. Almost every lake has trails as well as both major cities. Trail hiking takes traditional walking to a new level and provides exciting challenges and beautiful scenery to hikers of all ages. It is important to practice safety when hiking. You can find more information as well as safety tips for hiking in Oklahoma at: http://www.travelok.com/trails/hiking.asp.

Ride a Bike: Bicycling is a good cardiovascular exercise that could increase the health of your heart. A bike with several speeds will allow you to increase you fitness level as your cardiovascular function improves. Begin by riding at an easy speed over even ground. If what you want is a challenge change your terrain, the Tulsa area provides some very unique biking trails. Turkey Mountain just west of Tulsa challenges bike riders with steep slopes and rugged terrain. This will maximize the level of exercise riders will receive. If you are not ready to take on mountains and hills, there are many flat bike trails along the Creek Turnpike and in the Riverparks. More information can be found at: http://www.tulsabicycleclub.com.

These are just a few activities that Oklahoma provides when the weather turns to Spring. It is important that you find an activity you enjoy that gets your body moving and exercises your heart. So, get out there, move your body, and be well!

CASA to host golf scramble and silent auction; volunteers needed

Media Release
Court Appointed Special Advocates

Photo courtesy of Kim Deer
Pictured above are CASA's new volunteers who work in the courtrooms of Judge Patrick Moore with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Court and Judge Duane Woodliff with the Okmulgee State Court.

OKMULGEE — The Creek Nation CASA program will hold tribal specific volunteer training utilizing the new Independent Study Edition.

The new program allows volunteers to train from home with weekly phone visits from the CASA supervisor to answer any questions that may arise.

The Court Appointed Special Advocate Association trains community volunteers to speak up for tribal children that are in the court system as a result of abuse and/or neglect. Tribal court volunteers are assigned one child or sibling group. The volunteers work with counselors, social workers and CASA staff to make sure the children's needs are being met.

Creek Nation CASA operates in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court and currently has 17 tribal court volunteers advocating for 33 children.

"CASA volunteers give of themselves to ensure that tribal children are placed in safe, permanent and loving homes," stated CASA Program Manager Kim Deer.

It doesn't take any special qualification to be a CASA volunteer; the only requirement is to complete CASA training. CASA training topics include child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, drugs, child development, ICWA laws and many other interesting topics. It is a wonderful opportunity to get involved and make an impact on the community.

Locally, CASA is sponsoring their annual golf tournament to benefit the program. The CASA Classic Team Scramble and Silent Auction will be held at the Henryetta Golf & Country Club on May 16, 2009. Sign-ups will begin at 7 a.m., and 12:30 p.m.

There will be a shot gun start at 8 a.m., and 1:30 p.m. The Classic is limited to the first 22 teams and entry fees are $55.00 per person or $220.00 for a four-person team.

Cash prizes will be awarded for 1st and 2nd place and fees will include golf cart, continental breakfast, catered lunch and door prizes.

Prizes will also be given for longest drive, closest to pin and Hole in One.

For more information about the Creek Nation CASA Program or the CASA Classic, please contact Kim Deer at (918) 756-2549 or by e-mail at casaokm5@sbcglobal.net.

School Clothing Program applications available June 1 - Oct. 2, 2009

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*
Pictured above are new School Clothing Program employees Tina Jack and Meske Harding.

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*
Pictured above are Social Security employees Meske Wind, Kizzie Green and Lillian Thomas who share the new building with the School Clothing Program.

OKMULGEE — The School Clothing Assistance Program aims to assist eligible Creek students three years and older and enrolled in any Head-Start or private school, or at those at least four years old and enrolled in a public or private school, no higher than the 12th grade.

Unlike in recent years, home-schooled children ages five to 18 are also now eligible for the benefits of this program. The grants of $200 may be used to purchase clothing items and/or shoes for the upcoming 2009-2010 school year and are available for each qualifying child (for example, if there are three qualifying children ages 5, 12 and 16 living in a household, at $200 each, a check totaling $600 would be released to the parent or guardian).

A full-time staff including Program Coordinator Robbin Hayes who brings five years experience working with MCN Child Care and Secretary Jennifer Kelly are new to the program this year, replacing part-time positions in years past. The program has also moved under the branch of Social Services, which, according to Director Julie Zithrax means a smoother operation. "You're gonna have better oversight," Zithrax said. The new building is also located directly behind the Social Services building on the MCN complex, making it easy for citizens to access information about the program.

Applications for the program will be available beginning June 1, 2009 with the deadline to apply set for Oct. 2, 2009 at 5 p.m. Applications will be available at the School Clothing Program office, MCN Indian Community Centers, or MCN Child Development Centers.

For more information, please contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program at (918) 756-2024 or toll-free at 800-482-1979 to request an application that may be mailed or faxed to interested applicants.

MCN Social Services and Food Distribution Field Schedule

Coweta	Community Center 8:30 - 11 a.m.	2nd Tuesday of the Month
Glenpool	Community Center 9:00 - 10 a.m.	2nd Wednesday of the Month
Bristow	Community Center 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.	2nd Thursday of the Month
Eufaula	Community Center 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.	3rd Tuesday of the Month
Sapulpa	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	3rd Wednesday of the Month
Checotah	Community Center 9:00 - 11 a.m.	3rd Thursday of the Month
Weleetka	Community Center 9:00 - 10 a.m.	4th Tuesday of the Month
Okemah	Community Center 9:00 - 10 a.m.	4th Wednesday of the Month
Holdenville	Community Center 9:00 - 11 a.m.	4th Thursday of the Month

Schedule of events for 35th annual Muscogee Festival

FROM THE SAME FIRE
2009
MUSCOGEE NATION FESTIVAL

by Brian On-The-Hill
Tourism and Recreation

OKMULGEE — The following is a list of events for the 35th annual Muscogee Nation Festival.

Friday, June 5

7 p.m.

Jr. Miss/Miss Muscogee Nation Pageant—Henryetta High School Auditorium—1800 W. Troy Aikman Drive, Henryetta, Okla.

Saturday, June 6

10 a.m.

Little Miss/Senior Miss Muscogee Nation Pageant—Henryetta High School Auditorium—1800 W. Troy Aikman Drive, Henryetta, Okla.

Friday, June 12

5 p.m.

Slow Pitch Softball Tournament

Arts & Crafts

Food Vendors

Saturday, June 13

8 a.m.

Slow Pitch Softball Tournament

Adult 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament—Okmulgee Middle School Gymnasium—1421 E. Martin Luther King Drive

11 a.m.

Muscogee Royalty Reception—Council House Museum—106 West 6th, Downtown, Okmulgee

Arts & Crafts

Food Vendors

7 p.m.

Live Entertainment—Imzadi

Tuesday-Saturday, June 16-20

10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Council House Museum Juried Art Competition—106 West 6th, Downtown Okmulgee

Awards Presentation—Saturday, June 20, 4 p.m.

Thursday, June 18

6 p.m.

Stomp Dance—South of Mound Building, MCN Tribal Complex

Friday, June 19

8 a.m.

Junior Olympics—Harmon Stadium—601 E. 12th St.

Senior Citizens Activities—Elderly Nutrition Center

Farmers Market

8:30 a.m.

Golf Tournament (Scramble)—Okmulgee Golf Club—1400 S. Mission Lane

10 a.m.

Children's Fun Fair

Noon

Traditional Gaming—Grounds West of Mound Building, MCN Tribal Complex

5 p.m.

Arts & Crafts

Food Vendors

5:30-7 p.m.

Living Legends

6 p.m.

Fast Pitch Softball Tournament

7 - 9 p.m.

Rodeo—Bob Arrington Rodeo Arena

9 p.m.

Live Entertainment—Brandy

Saturday, June 20

8 a.m.

Youth 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament—Okmulgee Middle School Gymnasium—1421 E. Martin Luther King Drive

5k Walk/Run

Fast Pitch Softball Tournament

Horseshoe Tournament

Children's Fun Fair

Farmers Market

8:30 a.m.

Golf Tournament (Individual Qualification)—Okmulgee Golf Club—1400 S. Mission Lane

9 a.m.

Volleyball Tournament

Rodeo Slack—Bob Arrington Rodeo Arena

9 a.m.-Noon

Child Safety Seat Check—Parking Lot West of Mound Building, MCN Tribal Complex

9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Council House Indian Art Festival—106 West 6th, Downtown Okmulgee

10 a.m.

Festival Parade—Okmulgee Main Street (6th Street), Downtown Okmulgee

11 a.m.

Arts & Crafts

Food Vendors

1 - 4 p.m.

Creek Hymn Singing, Session I—Mound Auditorium, MCN Tribal Complex

3 p.m.

Corn Stalk Shoot—Grounds West of Mound Building, MCN Tribal Complex

4:30-7:30 p.m.

Gospel Singing—South of Mound Building, MCN Tribal Complex

7 - 9 p.m.

Rodeo Finals—Bob Arrington Rodeo Arena

9 p.m.

Live Entertainment—Joe Diffie, James Otto

Sunday, June 21

8 a.m.

Fast Pitch Softball Tournament

Farmers' Market

Children's Fun Fair

8:30 a.m.

Golf Tournament (Championship)—Okmulgee Golf Club—1400 S. Mission Lane

11 a.m.

Arts & Crafts

Food Vendors

* All events not otherwise noted will take place at the Claude Cox Omniplex (with the exception of the Muscogee Nation Scholarship Pageant) in Okmulgee.

FAMILY MEMBERS OF MUSCOGEE (CREEK) SOLDIERS KILLED IN ACTION

It is requested that family members of Muscogee (Creek) soldiers Killed In Action during World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam kindly contact the Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO) to provide the following:

- **Name of Muscogee (Creek) Soldier**
- **Verification of Citizenship**
- **Killed In Action Verification**
- **Birth Date**
- **Service Branch**
- **Killed In Action Date**

The Requested purpose of this information is to publicly honor and recognize our tribal soldiers in the Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO) Memorial Courtyard.

Please contact:
Shawn Taryole • (918) 732-7745 • staryole@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
Ken Davis • (918) 732-7739 • kendavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Dewar FCCLA students compete at national STAR competition

Photo courtesy of Kathy Dunham

Pictured above are Dewar FCCLA students who represented their state and their tribes at the 2009 Oklahoma State STAR (Students Taking Action with Recognition) competition.

Media Release
Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence

STILLWATER — Twenty-three Dewar students recently participated in the 2009 Oklahoma State STAR – Students Taking Action with Recognition – Events for Family, Career and Community Leaders of America in Stillwater on March 27 - 28. There are 16 national STAR Events available to FCCLA students. Some 500 students participated in Oklahoma's competition.

The Dewar students competed in seven different events. Fourteen of the students advanced from regionals. Nine students entered events that started at the state level. The students competed in the following events: Jr. Parliamentary Procedure, Sr. Illustrated Talk, Jr. Illustrated Talk, Jr. National Programs in Action, Chapter Service Project, Display, Focus on Children, and Chapter Showcase.

Eleven of the students have advanced to the national competition in Nashville, July 11-16. The students are Senior Michael Miller, sophomores Darin Smith (Creek) and Josh Peters (Creek), freshmen Whitney House, Paden Hall, Brittony Tiger (Creek), Malia McGowen, and Hannah McCarrroll and eighth graders Cheyenne Been (Creek), Taran Britt (Creek) and Chance Upshaw. Of the 11 students that are representing Oklahoma, five are members of the Muscogee Creek Nation. Their adviser, Mrs. Kathy Dunham, is also a member of the Muscogee Creek Tribe.

Michael Miller, Darin Smith and Josh Peters were participants in Chapter Service Project Display. Chapter Service Project Display is a team event that recognizes chapters that develop and implement an in-depth service project that makes a worthwhile contribution to families, schools and communities. Students must use Family and Consumer Sciences content and skills to address and take action on a community need. Participants have to prepare a display and give an oral presentation.

Whitney House, Paden Hall, Brittony Tiger, Malia McGowen, Hannah McCarroll, Cheyenne Been, Taran Britt and Chance Upshaw were participants in Jr. Parliamentary Procedure. Parliamentary Procedure is a team event, which recognizes chapters that develop a working knowledge of parliamentary law and the ability to conduct a business meeting. Participants must present a demonstration FCCLA meeting and prepare minutes of the meeting. FCCLA's STAR Events are competitive events in which members are recognized for proficiency and achievement in chapter and individual projects, leadership skills, and occupational preparation. These events are based on the belief that every student is a winner. Both youth and adults work together as managers of the events and evaluators of the participants.

Family and Consumer Sciences Education and its affiliated student organization FCCLA, are integral components in the CareerTech system. This national student organization helps young men and women become leaders and address important personal, family, work and societal issues. More than 13,000 students in 430 chapters on Oklahoma high school and technology center campuses are members of FCCLA.

STAR Events promote FCCLA's mission to focus on the multiple roles of family member, wage earner and community leader. Each event is designed to help members develop specific lifetime skills in character development, creative and critical thinking, interpersonal communications, practical knowledge and career preparation.

"Throughout the year, FCCLA members tackle issues such as teen violence prevention, traffic safety, family issues, career exploration and much more," said Denise Morris, state FCCLA adviser. "FCCLA programs enrich student learning, improve self-esteem and serve students with a range of ability levels, economic situations and cultural influences."

On a national level, FCCLA has more than 220,000 members and nearly 7,000 chapters from 50 state associations and the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The organization has involved more than 10 million youth since being founded in 1945.

"FCCLA is unique among youth organizations because its programs are planned and run by members," Morris said. "This is the only CareerTech student organization with family as its central focus. Participation in national programs and chapter activities helps members become strong leaders in their families, careers and communities."

FCCLA is one of seven CareerTech student organizations affiliated with CareerTech programs. The other six include FFA and Agricultural Education, DECA and Marketing Education, HOSA and Health Careers Education, Business Professionals of America and Business and Information Technology Education, Technology Student Association and Technology Education, and SkillsUSA and Trade and Industry Education.

The Dewar students will be representing Oklahoma in the national STAR Events competition at the FCCLA national conference in Nashville, Tenn., July 11-16. The students will be competing with students from 53 state associations including Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia and the Virgin Islands.

Dewar FCCLA adviser Kathy Dunham will be attending the conference with the students. The students and Mrs. Dunham have already started working to raise the money needed to attend the National Leadership Conference. They will be doing various fund-raisers from now through the month of June.

The Dewar students have to raise approximately $13,000 to attend the national leadership conference to represent the state of Oklahoma. Students and their adviser will be out and about doing various fund-raisers from now through the month of June. If anyone is interested in giving a donation or even finding an odd job for the students to do, contact Dewar FCCLA Adviser, Kathy Dunham at Dewar School at (918) 652-9625.

Locals receive Student of Excellence Awards

Media Release
Bristow and Glenpool Communities

TULSA — Two Bristow High School seniors, Casey Ramsey and Tucker Speir, were honored last week by the Tulsa Chapter of the American Indian Chamber of Commerce. They were nominated by Mrs. Gloria Davis (JOM Program) for the Student of Excellence Award. The two received the nomination for their GPA, moral behavior, leadership skills and their participation in service to their Native American community.

Casey and Tucker received their awards at a luncheon held on Thurs., April 16, at the Tulsa Country Club. After the luncheon, they received recognition and received a Student of Excellence Certificate for Outstanding Scholastic Achievement as well as a $50 savings bond from MidFirst Bank. Mr. Ryan Red Corn welcomed the students and their guests, and special remarks were given by Mr. Ed Fariss of MidFirst Bank. Ms. Victoria McKenna read the biographical information of each student as they received their awards.

Photo courtesy of Kristi Collington

Pictured above from left to right are Glenpool High School seniors Megan Edge and Wade Bell.

Casey is the daughter of Karen and Wayne Ramsey. She is a Muscogee (Creek) citizen who is involved in Career Day, vo-tech, Oklahoma Indian Honor Society and the JOM Program activities. During her high school years, she has been in cheerleading, National Honor Society, LEO Club, Student Council, Leadership Class, Principal's Honor Roll, Indian Student Honor Roll, All-State Softball, All-Regional Softball, All-Conference Softball, Student of the Month and is the 2009 Salutatorian. After graduation, she plans to attend OSU to become a physical therapist.

Photo courtesy of Lynn Speir

Pictured above from left to right are Bristow High School seniors Tucker Speir and Casey Ramsey.

Tucker is the son of Lynn and Terry Speir. He is a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation who has been involved in Career Day, vo-tech, Chickasaw Baseball Camp, and the JOM Program activities. During his high school years, he has been a member of the Pirate Pride Band, jazz band, high school choir, baseball, Oklahoma Boys' State, high school musicals, and he plays the trumpet at various veterans' events. He has attended vo-tech in Drumright for two years (automotive technology). Following graduation, he plans to work while attending college. His major is undecided at this time.

Eighty-one seniors from 42 schools across Northeastern Oklahoma were honored at the luncheon.

Two Glenpool High School students were also honored at the event. Seniors Megan Edge and Wade Bell were nominated for this award by Director of Indian Education, Kristi Collington for their academic achievement and involvement in the Native American Student Association (NASA) and Creek language/culture class. Each student also received a $50 savings bond. Both students are members of the Mvskoke Creek Nation.

Sponsors of the luncheon included MidFirst Bank, CADDO Solutions, Cherrah Quiett, Claude Neon Federal Signs, Inc., EquaCor Plastics & Packaging, Inc., Karen Rose, Lumen Midstream Partnership, LLC, Maska Builders, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Red Hand Media, Rob Anoque, TEACO Group, and Vacations R Us.

Education Spotlight: Glenpool Public Schools

by Kristi Collington
Director of Glenpool Indian Education

GLENPOOL — I had my classes enter essays in the 7th annual Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair at OU. The topic was "Language Advocacy." The essays include but are not limited to the following...

- The importance of your language to yourself, your family and or community
- The importance of Native languages to non-Indian communities
- Why students should learn their language
- The relationship between identity and language
- How my community has changed (with language programs/ with loss of language)
- If we all spoke Creek again
- If we didn't speak Creek
- Ideas for community or school language programs or what can be done in the community.

Photo courtesy of Kristi Collington

Pictured above are Glenpool Indian Education students who participated in the 7th annual Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair at the University of Oklahoma.

I thought this was a great opportunity for others to see the view point from our students in Glenpool on Native languages. These essays were written by a variety of students from 9-12 grade.

We are so grateful to the Language program for providing a language teacher this year and we hope that the Mvskoke language program will continue to grow and flourish. I have been learning the Mvskoke language now for seven years in hopes to teach our students here.

I hope that all students in the Creek Nation will be given an opportunity to learn the Mvskoke language from Pre-K to 12th grade, so that the language will live on. I believe that the foundation of culture is language. I hope that the tribe continues to stress the importance and will add language teachers in every school within the Creek Nation.

We are on a trimester schedule in our High School. In a short 12 weeks, our students have learned between 150-200 words and phrases and they are taught in such a way that they will remember them.

Jason Sawyer and I have made a very good team this year. With his language background and my teaching experience and knowledge of learning styles, we have created a class to be very proud of. I challenge myself, and my students every day to learn the language, work hard and I hope that language speakers out there will do the same in sharing their gift of language and knowledge.

As of now, our high school students are receiving an elective credit for the class. I hope that the Creek Nation Language Program gets their curriculum approved at the state level so that our students will be able to receive a foreign language credit (even though it is not foreign) that is just the way the state department of education works.

We have to find ways to bridge these gaps in language even though they are not easy. It takes time, hard work to make these things happen. I would just like to say mvto again for the language program and encourage language speakers to help us in this very important endeavor.

Sincerely,
Kristi Collington
Director of Indian Education
Glenpool Schools

Glenpool Indian Ed., bash set for May 29

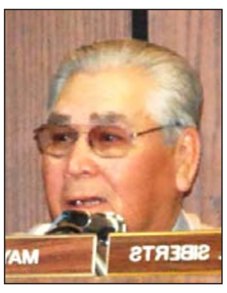
Media Release
Glenpool Indian Education

GLENPOOL — Glenpool Indian Education will host an end of the school year bash on Fri., May 29 from 5 - 8 p.m., at the Glenpool Creek Indian Community Center located at 13839 S. Casper St., in Glenpool. For directions, please contact the center at (918) 291-5300

The event will feature inflatables, stickball, kick ball, a three-point shoot-out, free throw contest, hotdogs and ice cream. All Native American Glenpool students and parents are invited to attend.

For more information, please contact Glenpool Indian Education Director Kristi Collington at (918) 322-9500 ext. 568.

Larney sworn in as Mayor of Henryetta
SPOTLIGHT - B5



Diabetes doesn't slow Dewar's Settlemyre
SPORTS - B8

FEATURES

Twin Hills School gets boost

• MCN makes $10,000 donation to be used for books

Photo courtesy of Thompson Gouge

Pictured left to right are School Board Member Gary Hudgens, National Council Representative James Jennings, Twin Hills Superintendent Bob Pinkston and Principal Chief A.D. Ellis.

SUPPORTING EDUCATION

TWIN HILLS – On February 27, 2009, breaking news throughout Oklahoma displayed a fire that destroyed a historic school building located in the Twin Hills Community. This sandstone schoolhouse was 200 feet long and about 50 feet wide and just recently celebrated 100 years. The school district has four newer buildings, a gymnasium and an enrollment of 300 students. Fortunately, the students were on Spring Break during this catastrophe.

The Muscogee (Creek) National Council recently passed legislation which was signed into law by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis authorizing a donation of $10,000 to Twin Hills Public Schools. This donation will be used for books and supplies.

"We certainly appreciate this and we'll put it to good use," said Twin Hills Superintendent Bob Pinkston.

MCN/*Thompson Gouge*

Dr. King gets famous

• CMN President inducted into Okemah Chamber's Hall of Fame

by Thompson Gouge
MCN Public Relations

OKEMAH – On Fri., April 24, Dr. James King was inducted into the 2009 Okemah Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame.

Dr. James King, son of David and Annie King, lived his early years in Okfuskee County. He attended Okfuskee School and then graduated from Okemah High School in 1964. He excelled in basketball, football and track, plus served on the OHS Student Council. Dr. King comes from a family of OHS graduates, including his sister, two brothers and both of his daughters.

Dr. King completed his Bachelor's degree at East Central State University in 1968; his Master's from the University of Minnesota in 1973; and his Doctorate of Education from Oklahoma State University in 1986.

Dr. King has always been committed to serving in the field of education. He began his professional service as a field representative for the Indian Division of the Oklahoma State Department of Education. Later he was employed with the National Indian Education Association as a Teacher Training Program Assistant, and continued his early professional career in the Administration of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, serving as Director of Education. James was also a General Manager for a consulting firm that provided training and technical assistance to Native American tribes. While at OSU, James was a Research Assistant in international education and trained education administrators, plus institutional instructors for the Kingdom of Jordan.

From 1986 until his retirement in 2003, Dr. King served as a Professor of Educational Research in Graduate College at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah. While at NSU, Dr. King earned a reputation among his peers and students as a dedicated teacher and professional. He counseled and mentored hundreds of Graduate Students through the successful completion of Graduate Degrees. These same students are now making major contributions in the field of education throughout the nation.

Dr. King's other professional achievements during his career include; Evaluator for teacher training programs; native language project and bilingual education activities, delegate on Libraries and Information Services for both the Oklahoma Governor's Conference and the Pre-White House Conference; committee member on Native Americans and Reading for International Reading Association; and a member of Human Relations Commission for the OEA. He was recognized by the State House of Representatives for his work on the Minority Needs Assessment Committee organized to increase the number of minority teachers in Oklahoma Schools.

Dr. King has participated in a number of community service activities and those include the Okfuskee County Community Action Program Board; volunteer coach of Okemah Little League; Creek Nation Trade and Commerce Board; Sequoyah High School Community Relations Board; And President of QuESTT Inc. (a community based agency serving disadvantaged youth). For his work with the community, James received a Distinguished Leadership Recognition Award from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Presently, Dr. King continues his work in the field of education by serving as President of the College of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, which he was instrumental in designing and implementing.

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Pictured above is Dr. James King who was recently inducted into the 2009 Okemah Chamber of Commerce's Hall of Fame.

Farmers' Market adds freshness to Festival

by Brian On-The-Hill
Tourism & Recreation

OKMULGEE — The 2009 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will include a Farmers' Market. All farmers interested in selling their home-grown produce should contact the office of Tourism & Recreation as soon as possible in order to secure a space at no cost.

All chartered Creek Communities are encouraged to inform farmers in their areas and secure a space for them. The 35th Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will be held June 18-21, 2009.

For more information, please contact Projects Specialist Brian On-The-Hill at Tourism & Recreation at (918) 732-7993.

These tomatoes were grown in Hanna Indian Community's garden. Fresh produce will be featured at this year's Farmers' Market.
- 35th annual Muscogee Nation Festival

NASA to co-host 2009 Princess Honor Dance

by Brian On-The-Hill
Tourism and Recreation

OKMULGEE — The College of the Muscogee Nation's Native American Student Association will co-host the 2009 Princess Honor Dance on Sat., May 9, 2009 at the Claude Cox Omniplex in Okmulgee, Okla.

The event will feature the Honor Color Guard from the Seminole Nation, traditional arts and crafts and contests in Southern Men's Traditional and Women's Cloth.

Gourd Dancing will begin at 2 p.m., followed by a supper break at 5p.m., and grand entry and contest at 7 p.m.

Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place. There will also be a tiny tots division.

No alcohol or drugs will be allowed and security will be provided. For more information, please contact: V. Mike Harjo at (918) 313-0552 or Meeko Tyner at (918) 293-5433.

For arts and crafts booth information, please contact Brian On-The-Hill at Tourism and Recreation at (918) 732-7993 or (918) 756-8700.

HISTORY/CULTURE B2
"Harjo Tribe" makes a showing at Language Fair

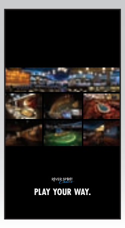
AD B3
35th annual Muscogee Nation Festival

LIFESTYLES B4
Aden Jayce Collins

SPOTLIGHT B5
Sanders honored at NSU

OBITUARIES B6
Steven Hummingbird

AD B8
River Spirit Casino



"Harjo Tribe" makes a showing at Oklahoma Youth Language Fair

Media Release
Okemah Indian Community

NORMAN — On April 6, brother and sisters, Seth, Louisa and Sutv Harjo, participated in the 7th Annual Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair with the Alabama Quassarte Intertribal Youth Group.

Students of Native American languages from grades ranging from preschool to high school participated in the Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair (ONAYLF) at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History at the University of Oklahoma in Norman, Okla., on April 6-7.

This year's theme was "Giving the Gift of Language." Students could compete in ten categories including: Individual Spoken Language, Group Spoken Language, Individual Language Performance with Music or Dance, Language Masters Performance, Native Language Book, Language Advocacy Essay, Native Language Poster Art, Language Film and Video, and Language Presentation with Power Point®.

Native artists, elders, authors, and language teachers from several different tribes judged the various categories. Strict accuracy in the language was not essential. Instead, the students' performances were evaluated on how much Native language was used, the spirit of the performance itself and the effort put into the performance. Books, essays, posters, and film/video entries are judged prior to the fair and the winners in each of these categories were displayed during the fair.

This annual statewide competition has drawn more than 500 students in prekindergarten through 12th grade who used an estimated 24 native languages to compete. The top three winners in each category in every age group received a trophy that can be displayed in their school or tribal center. In addition, every student participating received a 2009 ONAYLF T-shirt. The main focus is that all students are winners when they speak their Native languages!

Photo courtesy of Cassandra Harjo

Pictured above from left to right are Seth, Mya and Sutv Harjo who make up what their mother, Cassandra Harjo, calls the Harjo Tribe. The "tribe" recently competed at the 7th annual Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair in Norman, Okla.

Seth and Louisa created and submitted Native American books that included photos and the Mvskoke language. Seth's title of the book was Vmestvlke Ayat-My Family Tree and Louisa's was titled Cesvs Vc Vnokeces-Jesus Loves Me.

Louisa won first place in this Pre-K fifth grade category. Together, Louisa and Sutv competed in the Music and Dance with the song Merrkv Nerat-Amazing Grace, in the Pre-K- second grade category and won third place.

Seth is in third grade and Louisa is in kindergarten at Mason Elementary School and their little sister, Sutv, is four years old. They are all Muscogee (Creek) citizens, of the Eco (Deer) Clan, reside in the Okemah community and attend Springfield Indian United Methodist Church. Their parents are Cassandra Thompson and Pahose Harjo.

A special MVTO to the following from the Harjo Tribe (what mom calls Seth, Mya and Sutv together) for helping us learn and carry on the Mvskoke language and traditions: Alabama Quassarte Intertribal Youth Group's teachers and friends, Juanita McGirt (for teaching us the Creek Hymns), Mitch Jack (for teaching us the Mvskoke language), Suga-mama Carol Tiger (for making Mya's dress), Grandma Dora Taylor (for making Sutv's dress and the moccasins).

The historic and contemporary relationship of Thlopthlocco Tribal Town

Submitted by Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Cultural Preservation

OKFUSKEE COUNTY — The Thlopthlocco Tribal Town is a Muscogee branch or daughter town of the Thlewathle Tribal Town. Swanton, Early History of the Creek Indians and their Neighbors, pp. 254-258.

The report locates the Thlopthlocco Tribal town in the state of Alabama on the lower course of the Tallapoosa River eastward across from location of Thlewathle. See map (1), by Swanton Geographical movements and distribution and towns of the Creek Confederacy.

The Thlopthlocco Tribal town is reported to have separated and formed from the Thlewathle toward the end of the 18th century. Swanton, Indians of the Southeastern United States, Bureau of Ethnology, Bulletin 137, p.139.

The Thlopthlocco Tribal Town is designated to be on the Red War side of the Fire of the Upper Creek division of the Muscogee Confederacy. Their position has been derived from information on their mother town. Swanton, Early History of Creek Indians and their Neighbors, Bulletin 73, p. 254, Morris Opler. The Creek Indian Towns of Oklahoma in 1937, P.67.

No movement is recorded for the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town in Alabama until the forced removal in accordance with the Removal Treaty of 1832.

The Thlopthlocco Tribal Town is enumerated in the Census of 1832 as "Thollthlocoe Town" and Thlobthlocco Town." Document 512, Emigration of the Indians, by the Commissary General of Subsistence.

The removal journey of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town began from Wetumka Alabama on August 1, 1836. The emigration route was mainly overland this detachment arrived at Ft. Gibson, December 7, 1836 where they proceeded to the west of the Verdigris River. Grant Foreman, Indian Removal, pp. 140 - 163. See Removal Route map (2).

The Thlopthlocco Tribal Town maintained their square ground 10 miles south of Okemah, Oklahoma unti 1962. See Map (3), Perryman, 1891.

In 1938, the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town became a federally recognized tribe in accordance with the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of 1936 and operates at the present time under this act at Okemah, Okla.

The current Tribal Town King is Vernon Yarholar of the Deer Clan. The Thlopthlocco Tribal Town headquarters are located seven miles east of Okemah.

Artists still needed for 35th annual Festival

by Brian On-The-Hill
MCN Tourism and Recreation

OKMULGEE — The Tourism and Recreation Department of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is still accepting applications for arts and crafts booths at the 35th annual Muscogee Festival until all spaces are filled.

All registered Creek citizens may rent a 15'x20' booth space for $60, upon proof of citizenship. All other Native Americans (non-Creek citizens) will be charged $80 (must present valid CDIB card), Non-Natives will pay $125 and a $150 fee will be charged for commercial vendors. For more information, contact Brian On-The-Hill at (918) 732-7993.

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LANGUAGEUPDATES

Language Program announces language activity winners

by Kathleen Coachman
Language Program Manager

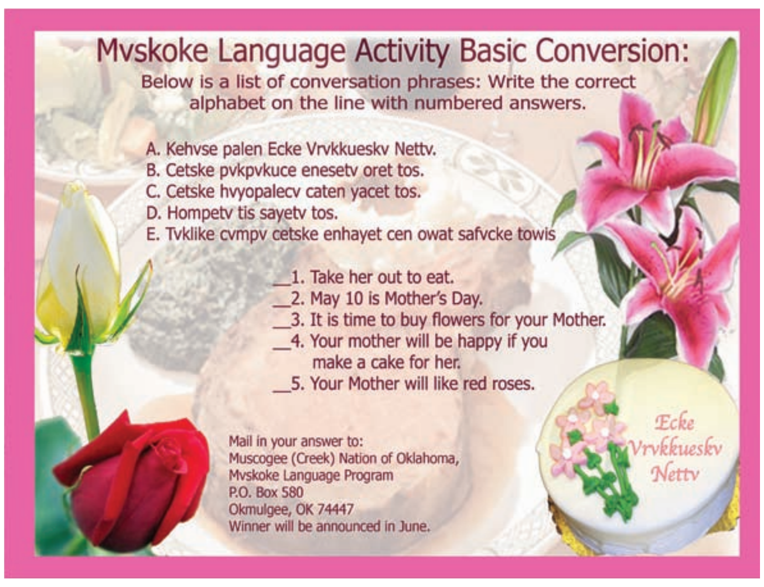
OKMULGEE — From the desk of Addie Lewis: The Mvskoke Language Program took a total of 60 students from Glenpool, Holdenville, Ryal, Dewar and Wilson to the Seventh Annual Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair in Norman, Okla., at the Sam Noble Museum of Natural History, on April 6 - 7, 2009.

All students did their very best. Those placing were: Ashley Dunn and MaKayla Franks singing Espoketis Omes, first place (Holdenville), Sarah Martin sang Heleluyv, and received second place (Holdenville), Shaniah Franks sang Cesvs Vcvnokeces, and received third place (Holdenville) Trever Franks sang Vpeyakvres and received first place (Glenpool), two groups from Dewar School sang Creek hymns and each group received second place trophies.

For the month of February, the winner of the Mvskoke Language Activity is Ms. Emily King of Sapulpa, Okla. Her name was drawn out of eleven entries.

We apologize for not submitting a Language Activity for March but just get those entries in and all the sentences that are correct will be entered in the drawing for that month. Thank you, Creek citizens for submitting your entries - we are happy to see so many that are staying involved with the language.

Till next time, God Bless You!
Mvskoke Language Program.



Mvskoke Language Activity Basic Conversion:

Below is a list of conversation phrases: Write the correct alphabet on the line with numbered answers.

A. Kehvse palen Ecke Vrvkkueskv Nettv.
B. Cetske pvkpvkuce enesetv oret tos.
C. Cetske hvyopalecv caten yacet tos.
D. Hompetv tis sayetv tos.
E. Tvklike cvmpv cetske enhayet cen owat safvcke towis

__1. Take her out to eat.
__2. May 10 is Mother's Day.
__3. It is time to buy flowers for your Mother.
__4. Your mother will be happy if you make a cake for her.
__5. Your Mother will like red roses.

Mail in your answer to:
Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma,
Mvskoke Language Program
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447
Winner will be announced in June.

CULTURAL NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Spring Cultural Day set for May 7, 2009

Media Release
MCN Office of Childcare

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Spring Cultural Day 2009 is set for Fri., May 7, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., on the south lawn of the Mound Building on the MCN complex.

This event is free and will be hosted by the MCN Office of Child Care. Activities will include storytelling of pre-removal of the Creek Indians, ballstick making, Creek hymn singing, stompdance, traditional food samplings and demonstrations of all sorts.

Participants will receive a free T-shirt that will be given to the first 500 children (ages 4-12) that register. For more information, contact the Office of Child Care at (918) 732-7680 or toll free at (800) 205-3705.

Summer gardening class set for May 9, 2009

Media Release
MCN Office of Childcare

OKMULGEE — The Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative will host a summer organic gardening class on Sat., May 9, 2009. Learn how to plan and plant a summer garden, using time-honored organic (chemical-free) methods.

The class is free and will be presented by George Driever, PhD., from the OSU Extension Service Muskogee Office and sponsored by the Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative.

The class will be held from 10:30 – Noon at 208 W. 6th Street (Across from Kirby's) in Okmulgee.

For more information, please contact Vicky Karhu at MFSI by phone at (918) 756 - 5915.

MUSEUM NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Juried Art Competition set for Creek Festival June 16-20, 2009

Media Release
Creek Council House Museum

OKMULGEE — The 2009 Muscogee Nation Festival and the Creek Council House Museum are calling all Native American artists for the 2009 Juried Art Competition. The juried art competition show will be exhibited at the museum from June 16 – 20. This year there will be two categories of competition: Painting/Graphic Arts and Photography.

"It will be an exciting show this year. For the first time we will have a photography category. We have also increased the number of prizes and the amount of prize money that will be awarded with one talented artist receiving the $1,000 Best of Show Award," stated museum curator Ted Isham.

In addition to the art competition, Native American artists will be able to set up and sell their work on the museum lawn. There will be no charge for booth space but, vendors must pre-register with the museum.

Entry packets are available now. For further information and to request a juried art competition packet or a vendor on the lawn packet, please contact the museum at (918) 756-2324.

ADVERTISEMENT

FROM THE SAME FIRE

2009

MUSCOGEE NATION FESTIVAL

Live Entertainment

BRANDY | june 19th

JAMES OTTO | june 20th

JOE DIFFIE | june 20th

June 18 - 21

Entries for the following must be submitted no later than Friday, May 29, 2009

Men's Basketball 3 on 3	**Sprint Williams**	*918-759-1219*
Youth Basketball 3 on 3	**Chad Smith**	*405-487-8864*
Golf Tournament	**Celesta Johnson**	*800-219-9458*
Horseshoes	**Liz Holata**	*918-732-7614*
Parade	**Melinda Deeringwater**	*918-759-4172*
Slow-Pitch Softball Tourn	**George Roach**	*918-458-0577*
Fast-Pitch Softball Tourn	**Skeet Bemo**	*918-344-0798*
Volleyball	**Billie Harjochee**	*918-732-7960*

The 2009 MCN Festival Presents

IPRA RODEO

June 19-20, 2009

For more information, contact: Wendell Ratchford 405-306-9185
For entry contact: 1-800-639-9002

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Joshua Morser

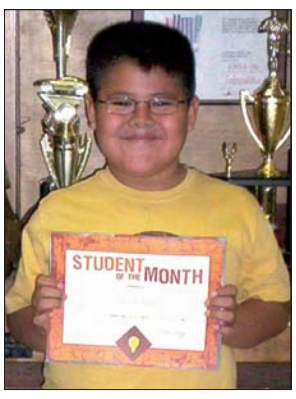
LONGMONT, Colo., — Joshua Morser is 14 years old and is a citizen of the Muscogee Creek Nation. He just completed his participation in a local Independent Film.

He is currently an 8th grader at Sunset Middle School in Longmont, CO.

This was his first audition and he landed a supporting role and will receive credit for his acting.

He portrayed the character James. It is a sci-fi film and was filmed in Woodland Park, CO and Colorado Springs, CO. The film will be submitted to several film festivals.

Legend Falcon Taylor



HENRYETTA — Legend Falcon Taylor was selected as 2009 March Student of the Month. He is a student at Henryetta Elementary School in the 2nd grade and is in Mrs. Lisa Rogers class.

Parents are JR. & Melinda Taylor.

He has one sibling; Ashton Taylor.

Maternal grandparents are Sonny & Betsy Taryole.

Paternal grandparents are Sally and the late Walter Taylor.

Maternal Great Grandparents are the late Van & Sophia Taryole and the late Tom & Lillie Gouge.

Paternal Great Grandparents are Edna Mitchell and the late Marchie Taylor & Lizzie Tiger.

He attends New Beginnings Baptist Church.

He is of the Wind Potato Clan and of the Peach GroundTribal Town.

BIRTHS

David Artenio Martinez

FRIONA, Texas — David Artenio Martinez was born March 20,at 3:20p.m.

He weighed 5 pounds 6 ounces and was 21 1/4 inches in length.

He is the son of Angel and Lydia Martinez. He has two siblings; Roberto and Katcv.

Grandparents are Ester Pickup and David Wesley and Artenio and Belen Martinez.

Great grandparents are the late Toby and Hattie Alexander, the late Leon and Emma Wesley.

He is of the Tiger Clan.

Ezekiel Shane & Rylan Olivia Wyatt

FRIONA, Texas — Twins Ezekiel Shane Wyatt and Rylan Olivia Wyatt were born Jan. 13.

Ezekiel was born at 7:10 p.m. and Rylan at 7:11 p.m.

He weighed 3 pounds 15 ounces and was 16 inches in length.

She weighed 3 pounds 10 ounces and was 16.5 inches in length.

Parents are Nathan and Carrie Wyatt.

They have one sibling; Jordon Wyatt.

Maternal grandparents are Wendell and Shelia Coon.

Paternal grandparents are Bernie and Janet Wyatt.

Maternal great grandparents are Jim and Beaulah Spain and Lula Coon. Paternal great grandparents are Charles Wyatt, Sr. and the late Beverly Wyatt and the late Doyle and Pauline Snell.

BIRTHDAYS

Betty Lee Baker

MUSKOGEE — celebrated her 82nd birthday with friends and family on May first.

Parents are the late Joseph and the late Nancy Lowe.

She has four siblings; Ricky Upton, Barbara Torix, Freddie Upton and Russel Baker.

Grandparents are the late Alex Lowe and the late Elsie Lynch.

Great grandparents are the late William Lynch and the late Fannie Lasley.

She attended Eufaula Boarding School.

She is of the Bear Clan and of the Rabka Tribal Town.

Aden Jayce Collins

YUKON — Aden Jayce Collins celebrated his third birthday with a Thomas the Train party at his home in Yukon where guests enjoyed hamburgers, hotdogs and birthday cake at a cookout.

Aden is the son of Rachael Collins and Jacob Collins and the sister of Tara Collins.

Maternal grandparents are Wayna Gryder of Weleetka and Steven Landsberry of Mounds.

Paternal grandparents are Donna and Homer Collins of Mammoth Springs, Ark.

He is the nephew of Rebecca Landsberry.

Great maternal grandparents are Gladys Landsberry and the late Jack Landsberry, of Okmulgee and Janie and the late Dewayne Tallent of Bristow.

Aden is a descendant of the Wind Clan and the Tvkvpvtce Tribal Town.

He attends Shartel Church of God in Oklahoma City.

Sadie Nanette Harjo

OKMULGEE — Saddie Nanette Harjo celebrated her birthday at Chuck E. Cheese with her family.

Her parents are Tenetke and Neccettia Harjo.

She has two siblings; Tysie Renee Harjo and Tenetke Coachman Harjo II.

Maternal grandparents are Mike and Sharon Proctor. Paternal grandparents are Mike and Opal Harjo.

Maternal great grandparents Sam and Pauline Proctor; the late George B. and Christen B. Harjo.

Paternal great grandparents are Josephine Harjo; the late Joe and Nettie Coachman.

She attends Muscogee (Creek) Nation Headstart and is of the Sweet Potato Clan.

Lillian Delaney Leybas

OKMULGEE — Lillian Delaney Leybas celebrated her first birthday on April 24, with a “Ladybug” themed party.

Parents are Daniel and Ashley Leybas.

She has two siblings; Leah and Dylan.

Grandparents are Daniel Leybas and Tammy Johnson.

Great grandparents are Mike Cornelius and Rhonda Wewer.

She is of the Wind Clan and of the Okmulgee Tribal Town.

Devon Kade Walker

OKMULGEE — Devon Kade Walker celebrated his third birthday with a “Puppy Dog” themed party.

Parents are Garren and Tana Walker.

He has one sibling; Gavon Walker.

Maternal grandparents are Ashley and Linda Bear.

Paternal grandparents are Kellos and Martha Walker.

He is of the Sweet Potato Clan and of the New Tulsa Ceremonial Ground.

Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:

Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)____________
Name: ____
Address:____
Date of Birth: __________________________________
Theme of the party:______________________________
Parents: _______________________________________
Siblings: _______________________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
School: ____
Clan: ____
Tribal Town:____________________________________

Birth:

Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)____________
Name: ____
Address:____
Date of Birth: __________________________________
Name of Hospital: ______________________________
Weight: ______ pounds ______ ounces______inches
Parents: _______________________________________
Siblings: _______________________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ____
Tribal Town:____________________________________

Announcements:

Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)____________
Name: ____
Address:____
Parents: _______________________________________
Siblings: _______________________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ____
Tribal Town:____________________________________
Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Levita's Stone

Submitted by George Windes
CMCA Historian

YORBA LINDA, Cali.,—Little was known about the 40-year sojourn of our maternal family in Northwest Louisiana. It had been a temporary refuge, between the heartache of the loss of our ancestral lands in Alabama and the rebuilding of our tribal squares in Indian Territory.

Our interest was strong though, because of family tales about my grandpa's grandmother, Mary Levitia Weatherford (1822-1859). Levitia was the daughter of Lomo Chatti, The Red Eagle, known as William Weatherford by white men. He had led a thousand warriors against the armies of Andrew Jackson in the Creek Indian War of 1813/14. His great victory at Fort Mims is rare in the annals of America. He personally surrendered to Jackson to save starving women and children, after most of his warriors died at the infamous Battle of Horseshoe Bend.

We knew that Levitia had grown up in mixed society. Her mother was Mary Stiggins, her grandmother Haw, both Natchez women, descended from the early Natchez leader, the Great Sun. Levitia married well, to a white man, Dr. William F. Howell. They had settled on part of her mother's land at Lower Peach Tree, Ala., but migrated to an area west of Natchitoches, La., in 1851. They had seven children.

In the spring of 1997 my brother John and wife Mary visited that area. They decided to visit the local courthouse to search for information. A 29-page document was discovered which told of the early deaths of Levitia and her husband. It listed their assets and named their minor children. We knew that two of them, W. Scott Howell and his sister, Josephine Howell Freeman, had eventually traveled on to the Creek Nation and been enrolled by the Dawes Commission.

My brother and wife wanted to find any family burials and were directed down a dirt trail to a long abandoned cemetery near the village of Pleasant Hill, La. The old stones were mostly piled in heaps and they were just ready to give up, when Mary noticed something lying flat in a nearby pine forest. It proved to be a beautiful marble monument that had been toppled. Nearly covered with forest debris, the faded inscription read, *Mary Levitia Weatherford Howell.*

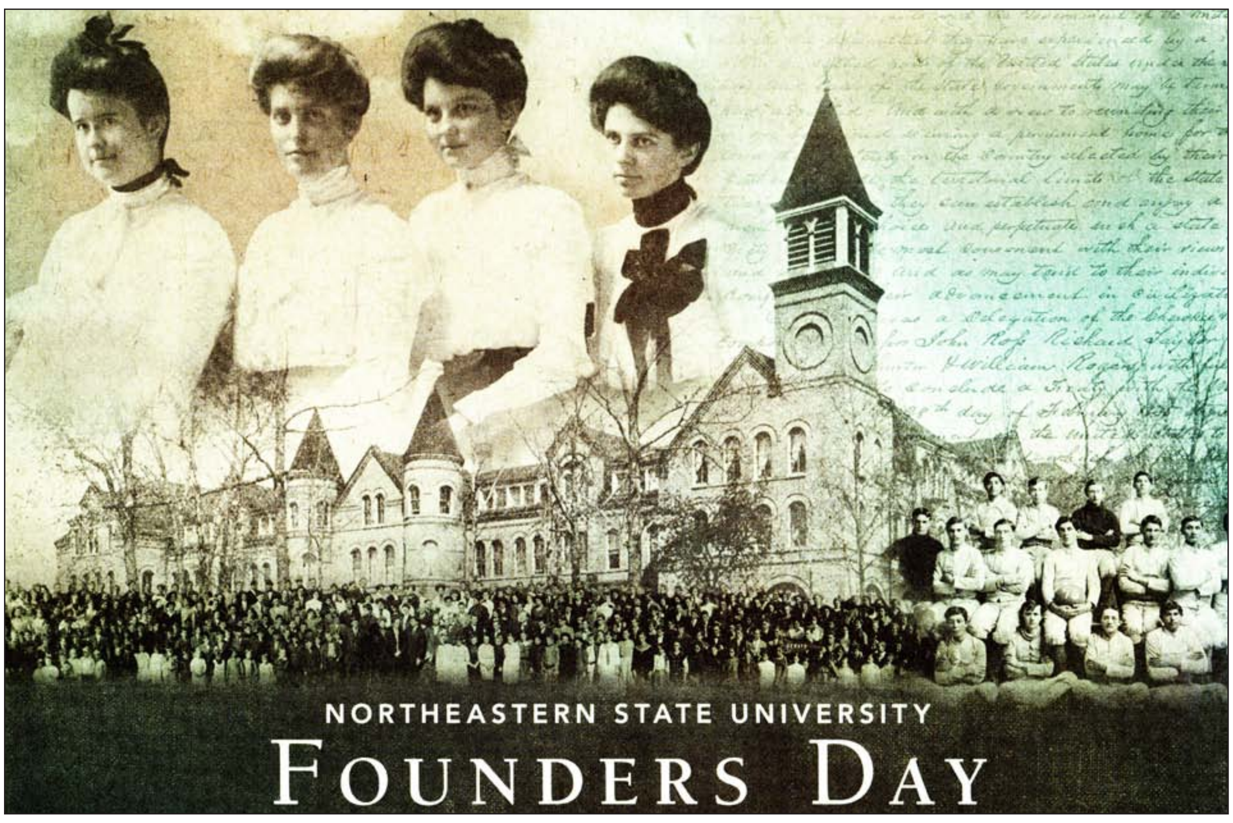
Early the next morning, they decided to return to the cemetery to clean the area some. As Mary left the car, she exclaimed, "John, Levitia's stone is standing!" To their amazement, the eight foot tall monument, weighing hundreds of pounds, now stood tall and erect. Furthermore, just to the east of it, the fallen stones of two Howell children were swept clean. They were for Natalie (1844-1859) and Bonaparte (1846-1852). The camcorder came out again, to record this small family history miracle.

Later it was learned that the mayor of Pleasant Hill, knowing that Confederate soldiers were buried there and getting ready for a Civil War reenactment, had sent a city employee to clean the old burial ground. He had lifted but one stone and cleaned around it. His timing was perfect for a family's first visit to a beloved ancestor in nearly a hundred years!

Levitia's stone is mentioned by the author of a book entitled PISGAH'S EARTH who saw it in 1940. At one time, a stone bowl sat atop the pillar with a large marble ball inside of it and an iron rod penetrating both. The ball could be spun and made a sad sound through the forest which were known to have frightened Union soldiers camped nearby in the Civil War. Levita is described in a local history as handsome and beloved, a Creek mother.

Sanders honored at NSU

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer



Photograph submitted

Pictured above is the program from Northeastern State University's Founders' Day Celebration. Susie Tiger Sanders is among those who were recognized as unsung heroes and honored for their hard work.

TAHLEQUAH — In a celebration at Northeastern State University held in March, Susie Tiger Sanders was among the many Centurions who were nominated by alumni and friends as a Leader of our Century. The event program read "Centurions are the unsung heroes of the past century who have made a difference in individual lives."

Centurions are the leaders of the century. The word "centurion," was adapted from Roman Army. An NSU Centurion is someone whose leadership and commitment, while helping others, has allowed them to influence the past 100 years of NSU history.

Nominations from NSU alumni and friends were submitted and presented with the name of the applicant omitted, to a group of readers for unbiased review. Submissions totaled 200, each applicant accompanied by humorous, touching or inspirational stories. These stories shared the accomplishments of the individual nominated. While all narratives will be recorded as an official part of the NSU Centennial Celebration, only 100 were to be recognized like Sanders.

Responses to the call for nominations for NSU Centurions were overwhelming and launched a new tradition for the university. Each year, NSU alumni and friends have the opportunity to nominate individuals who have impacted someone's life.

The purpose of the celebration was to highlight and reflect on some of the significant people and events associated with the university. A Centennial oversight committee, Founders Day Committee, special supporters, Founders Day Student Committee and a multitude of NSU student volunteers coordinated the celebration.

Sanders, a Tahlequah resident, attended NSU and received a BS degree in mathematics. She worked for years at NSU and was the first recipient of the NSU Service Leader Award.

"A Centurion is someone whose leadership, commitment and ability to help others has allowed them to influence the past 100 years of NSU history."
– Founders Day Committee

Sanders retired in 1992 as NSU Assistant Vice President for Business and Development.

Sanders is the daughter of the Late Muriel Henry and Amos Tiger. Her sister is Dolores Wall who resides in Okmulgee with her husband Jerry. Sanders brother, Tecumseh Tiger, resides in Tahlequah. Sanders' children reside in Tahlequah and Dallas, Texas.

Northeastern State University was founded in 1846 as the Cherokee National Female Seminary, opening its doors in 1851 as the first institution of higher learning Indian Territory. On March 6, 1909, the Oklahoma legislature purchased the Seminary from the Cherokee Nation and on Sept. 14, classes began as the newly formed Northeastern State Normal School in Tahlequah.

The university has played an important role in the community and its development. Presently, NSU is a comprehensive regional university and the fourth largest public four-year institution of higher learning in Oklahoma.

With academic emphases in business, technology, social sciences, mathematics, sciences, optometry, education, language and the arts, the university has branch campuses in Muskogee and Broken Arrow. Some 9,000 students and citizens of eastern Oklahoma enjoy the outstanding educational and cultural opportunities provided the University.

A staggering 29 percent of the student population are self-identified American Indians, and each year the facility graduates the highest number of American Indians among public four-year institutions nationwide.

Larney sworn in as Mayor of Henryetta

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

PHIL SIBERTS
MAYOR
OKLAHOMA GREAT SEAL THE CITY OF HENRYETTA

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Pictured above is newly-elected Mayor and longtime resident of Henryetta, Okla., Richard Larney who has served the local community since the 1950s when he served as the city's Chief of Police.

HENRYETTA — A constant community servant over many years and Muscogee (Creek) citizen, Richard Larney, was nominated and elected Mayor of the City of Henryetta on April 20, 2009. At a special meeting held to swear in the newly elected Council, Larney took his seat as Mayor shortly after taking his oath to serve as Council member.

Larney began campaigning for the seat formerly held by Don Polston. The seat at large was filled by Larney after a narrow victory of 274 votes over his opponent Ronnie Duke (267 votes). After taking his place at the Council, Former Mayor Phil Siberts opened the nominations for Mayor. Carolyn Wallace promptly nominated Larney, who had previously served the Henryetta City Council. She was seconded by Council member Michael Dickie.

Larney, having held many positions within the community of Henryetta and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, is no stranger to the role of a public official. His record as a Council Member began in the late 80s. This was a period in which many important city government decisions were made. Larney continued to serve on the Council into the early 90s.

Larney has roots in law enforcement. He held the position of Chief of Police for the City of Henryetta during the 1950s. It was under his leadership that department endured the loss of fellow officers in a widely publicized shooting.

"First I'd like to thank the last Council for its hard work and leaving the City financially stable. I want to work to continue the progress."
– Mayor Richard Larney

As a long standing member of the Lion's Club, a Free Mason, former City Council Member, former Chief of Police, Larney is very involved in the City government. He has a regular presence at many meetings such as legislative forums and is diligently involved in the welfare of the community. Larney's contributions of wisdom and experience have spanned decades.

Early in the meeting he addressed the entire previous council saying, "I'd like to thank the Council for its hard work and for leaving the City financially stable." Additionally, Larney stated that his reasons for seeking the position as Mayor were to help continue the progress enjoyed by the City Henryetta.

Larney's dedication goes beyond the city limits; in the early to mid 80s, he served two terms as a MCN National Council Representative. His wide range of experience has prepared Larney for city leadership and his dedicated service to citizens has earned the respect of his peers.

OBITUARIES

JOHNSON FIELDS

EL PASO, Texas — Johnson Fields, beloved husband, father, grandfather, and friend entered eternal life on Dec. 19, 2008 in El Paso, Texas. He was born to Tom and Kizzie Fields in Okmulgee, on November 3, 1919, graduated from Sapulpa High School, and briefly attended Haskell Institute in Kansas.

He proudly served his country in WWII, including Normandy, Northern France, the Andennes, and the Battle of the Bulge. He retired from the U.S. Army as a Master Sergeant after 21 years of service. He also retired from Civil Service as a Senior Missile Maintenance Technician and subsequently went to work for Raytheon Service Company from which he retired as a Senior Field Engineer.

During his 44-year career he received numerous awards and citations for outstanding performance. He was a 46 year member of Faith (Ausbury) United Methodist Church, serving God in many capacities.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Anne Fields, son Marc of Sapulpa, son Will and wife Jackie of Highland Village, Texas, five grandchildren, two nieces Cynthia Factor and Arlene Efurd, one nephew Mike Factor and their families.

Burial followed at Fort Bliss National Cemetery with full military honors.

Honorary pallbearers were J.B. Bennett, Joe Raffaelli, Charles Reed, and Bill Walls.

ZACK PICKERING

SAPULPA — Zack Pickering of Sapulpa passed from this life Sat., Feb. 21, at the age of 41. He was born July 23, 1967 in Claremore to James and Edna Pickering. Mr. Pickering was a carpenter.

Zack was preceded in death by his father, James Pickering, and one brother, Phillip Pickering.

Zack is survived by his mother, Edna Pickering of the home; fiance, Paula Mcnac; son Zackary Pickering; daughter Brandy Pickering; sisters, Sally Hampton, Jeanette Harjo and Jamie McCosar; and brothers James Pickering, Timothy Pickering, Charles Pickering, Timothy Pickering, Ricky Pickering, Jeffery Pickering, Jay Pickering, and Elliot Pickering.

Funeral Services were held February 24 at Little Cussetah Baptist Church in Sapulpa. Interment followed at the South Heights Cemetery. Pallbearers were Joseph TeeHee, Gene Daniel, Frank Harjo, Jason Harjo, Eric Pickering, Nathan Pickering, Sheridan Pickering, and Judd Pickering. Honorary bearers are Jim Hampton, Larry McCosar, David Dale, Steward Williams, Joe Vantuyl, Shane Hooper, Chris Etheridge, and John Pickering

SAM MARSHALL

TULSA — Sam Marshall went to be with the Lord on April 2 in Tulsa at the age of 74. Services were held April 6 at the First Baptist Church in Weleetka. Services under the direction of William-Spradlin Funeral Home of Weleetka.

EARLINE GRAY

EUFAULA — Earline Gray, 63, of Eufaula passed away Friday, April 17, 2009 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Earline was born on January 9, 1946, in McIntosh County, the daughter of Wad and Lillie (Sloan) Francis. She attended school in Sequoyah and Eufaula. On October 18, 1967, she married Foster Gray, Sr. Earline enjoyed spending time with her family and friends, fishing, listening to music and driving down back roads.

Survivors include her husband, Foster Gray, Sr., of the home; her three sons, Foster Gray, Jr. and wife Melanie of Tulsa, Nocuselle Gray of Eufaula, Jeremiah Gray of Okmulgee; five daughters, Ramona Hampton Smith and Daniel of Eufaula; Winey Fowler and husband Randy of Eufaula, Yahnnie Colenutt and husband James of Okmulgee, Virginia Whitehead of Tulsa and Lena Jay and husband Tim of Tulsa; two sisters, Edna Wickham and husband Herbert of Bristow and Maybellene Holeman of Eufaula; fifteen grandchildren, Ben, Amanda, Scott, Elizabeth, Timmy, Randi, Raini, Ramona, Kenny, Tayna, Cody, Starla, Holley, Joseph and Gerald and one great grandchild on the way. She is preceded in death by her parents, three brothers, Monroe, Dorsey and Lockey, two sisters, Maria and Francine and one infant son, Baby Boy Gray.

A wake service was held at the Gray home Wednesday, April 22, 2009. Grave side services were held 11:00 a.m., Thursday, April 23, 2009, at the Gray Family Cemetery with Richmond Carr officiating. Pallbearers were Daniel Smith, Timothy Jay, Ben Gray, Randy Fowler, James Colenutt and Mose Lewis. Services were under the direction of Hunn, Black & Merritt Funeral Home & Crematory.

KIZZIE HARJO

HANNA — Kizzie Harjo, aged 59, was born in Fame, Oklahoma on November 26, 1949 to Jack and Nancy (Gouge) Harjo. Soon after she was born, they moved their family to Hanna, where later Kizzie started her education in Hanna at the West Liberty Grade school. And later finished high school at Hanna then continued her education by attending Conner's State College where she received her associates degree in Business.

During her free time, Kizzie enjoyed gardening and making traditional quilts, but most of all, she loved spending time with her family and grandchildren. Kizzie was a life long member of the Hillabee Ceremonial Ground and was very active in her customs and traditions.

Kizzie is survived by two daughters, Jenny Mae and Crystal Cook, both of Hanna, three brothers, Alex Harjo of Tulsa, and Lewis and Leroy Harjo, both of Hanna. She is also survived by three sisters, Jeanetta Harjo of Oklahoma City, Helen Erwin of Tulsa, and Bernice Proctor of Shawnee. Four grandchildren, Kaylee Howard, George Howard, Lilly Cook, and Ethan Howard. Kizzie was preceded in death by her parents Joseph and Nancy Harjo, her husband Jim Cook, two brothers Daniel and Woodrow Harjo and two sisters Winnie and Colleen Harjo.

Wake services were at Hanna Community Center with Reverend Jackson officiating and the funeral service was held at the Community Center with burial at the Jackson-Harjo Cemetery at Hanna. Pallbearers were Brian Harjo, Coachie Harjo, Justin Bruner, Michael Tiger, Marcus Harjo, and Christopher Erwin. Honorary Pallbearers are Jack Harjo, Bennie Harjo, and Clay Harjo.

THANK YOU

The Family Wishes To Thank: Second Chief Alfred Berryhill and Creek Nation Offices for their assistance. Reverend Malcolm Tiger for Officiating, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill and all the preachers who came to speak at the wake, Alabama Ceremonial Grounds members for all their hard work and cooking the meals, Pecan Grove Church and members, all the family and friends who attended, sent flower, cards, brought food and offered words of comfort.

The family would also like to note that the name of his band was Blackhawk Blues Band instead of Black Music Band.

Turner and Geraldine Scott and Family

THANK YOU

Thank you to the relatives and friends of Leah Jean Stacy. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and heartfelt caring, your prayers and support. And a special thanks to our sister and Creek Nation Representative, Selina Jane-Dornan whose loving support was there when we needed it most and Tuskegee Indian Baptist Church whose Indian songs and service for our mom made us all feel at home.

MARY JEAN HICKS PIGEON

TULSA — Mary Jean Hicks Pigeon was born on May 29, 1941 in the Grassy Lake area to Charlie Mike Hicks, Sr. and Lily Tiger Hicks. Mary went to be with the lord on Sunday, February 15, 2009 in Tulsa at the age of 67.

Mary was baptized in 1952 at the First Baptist Church of Eufaula and then transferred her membership and was baptized October 3, 1983 at the First Christian Church of Weleetka, and was an active member of the Christ Community Worship Center.

Mary loved to bake, read, and iron. She loved to watch old Gene Autry Westerns on tv and go to garage sales. She had a special love for cats.

Mary is of the Bear Clan and was a member of the Kialegee Estvlwv where she served on the Advisory Committee. She also served as Deaconess at the First Christian Church. Mary worked as a teacher's aide, Nutrition-Aide for Headstart, Coordinator for the Weleetka Indian Community Center. Also worked in the Agriculture Area with her husband, Jessie.

Mary attended Boarding School at Eufaula and Seneca before moving back to the Weleetka area in 1956 where she met and married Jessie Pigeon on November 28, 1957.

She was proceeded in death by her parents, three sisters, two brothers, two sons: Lester Lee and Jonathan, and her husband, Jessie Pigeon.

Survivors include three sons and their wives: Stanley and Jeannie Pigeon of Weleetka, Virgin and Joann Pigeon of Weleetka, Ricky and Chassity Pigeon of Weleetka, and one daughter Stephanie Pigeon Brown of Weleetka, two sisters; Winey Beaver of Henryetta, and a half-sister Beatrice Hicks of Scates, a half-brother Charlie Mike Hicks, Jr. of Weleetka, and seven grandchildren: Jeremy, jennifer, Jessica, Rebecca, Michael, Rachel, and Katie Jo, and one great grandson, Cale Elyas Rector.

Pallbearers were Tim Williams, Leo Lee Hicks Jr., Jeremy Pigeon, Guy Sheneman, Sam Beaver III, Michael Pigeon.

Honorary Pallbearers: W. L. Smith, Donnie Burden, Brandon Ogle, Simeon Lee, Charlie Mike Hicks, Jr.

Services were graveside February 19 at the Hillcrest Cemetery in Weleetka. Reverend Donald Williamson officiated.

THANK YOU

The children and grand children of Mable McNac would like to say thank you to Belvin Baptist Church and Pastor Randy Colbert, Rev. Kellos Walker, Benny Hardridge, Rusty Powell, the entire McNac family, Mr. and Mrs. Brian McGertt, Jo Ellen Lucley and girls, Brenda Bacon and girls, to Angelic Hospice, God's Travel Agents to Heaven, to all who gave from their hearts in love, word and deed.

There were so many people who gave from their hearts, were thoughtful and unselfish so willing to share, to help out, or be there no matter how busy their days. Thank you so much. Mom would be so proud that you took care of her children and grand babies.

STEVEN HUMMINGBIRD

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Steven David Hummingbird were held Friday, March 6 at the First Baptist Church in Okemah. He was born June 12, 1958 in Claremore to David Hummingbird and Florina Bear. He passed away on March 2 at Saint Francis Hospital in Tulsa at the age of 50. He had been a resident of the Okemah area all of his life, having graduated from Okemah High School in 1976. He worked as a machinist for many years. He also served his country with the United States Army.

He was preceded in death by his father and one grandson. He is survived by his wife, Mary, his sisters, Virginia Crouch and husband, Delmo, of Davis, Beverly Tisho and husband Kenny of Shawnee, two daughters, five stepchildren, his mother, Florina Bear, two aunts, Helen Coon of Sapulpa and Edith Harjo of Cromwell, one uncle, Phillip Coon of Sapulpa, his mother-in-law Jane Layman of Henryetta, and many nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were David Mackey, Jim Humble, Robert Smith, Dennis Smith, Keith Guinn, and Bruce Magness. Honorary pallbearers were James Deaton II, Delmo Crouch, Kenny Tisho, Joe Mullinicks, Mike Coon, Charley Simmer, and mark Gibson. It was officiated by Rev. Andrew Johnson and Terry LeGrand. Interment was at the Hummingbird family cemetery in Okemah.

DELORES JEAN RANDALL

OKMULGEE —Delores "Aunt Dodo" Jean Randall, a resident of Okmulgee, passed away on March 21 in Okmulgee at the age of 81. She was born February 16, 1928 in Sand Springs to Roman and Annie (Island) Randall. She worked for ONG for many years and was a member of the Honey Creek Indian Methodist Church. Delores is preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her son, Roman Randall Harjo Sr. and wife Mahalia B. of Okmulgee; grandson, Roman Randall Harjo Jr. of Okmulgee; sister, Ramona Randall of Claremore; niece, Rebecca Staten of Claremore; great niece, Elizabeth Howell of Claremore, Lisa Staten of Claremore; nephew James "Cricked" L. Staten of Claremore; great niece and nephew Kelci Howell and Jonus Howell.

Wake services was held on March 23 at the Rogers Funeral Home Chapel. She was then taken to Hickory Ground #1 for Night Services. Service was Wednesday, March 25 at Hickory Ground #1 with Pastor Mitchell Taylor officiating. Interment was at Westlawn Cemetery under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

THANK YOU

There are many people we thank in our prayers for things we appreciate so much. Try as we may sometimes we can't say the words we want them to know. You have gone out of your way, you pitched in when there was work to be done, you showed understanding and lightened our load. You helped, you loved, you cared in more ways than one.

The family of Zack Pickering wishes to thank Angelic Hospice and Carter Hospice who made his life more comfortable, to Jimmy Alexander, Truitt Johns and Shane Hooper who ministered the love and comfort of our Lord God, to Little Cussetah Baptist Church and the Watashe family for your endless hard work, for all who gave in love with heart, in word or deed. Zack would be so proud and thankful to all of you who took care of his loved ones.

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SPORTS

Diabetes doesn’t slow Dewar’s Settlemyre

• Senior stand-out is a two-sport star for the Dragons

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

DEWAR — As a baby, Kevin Settlemyre’s first word was also his favorite; “Ball!” And ever since, playing ball has been his life. You could even argue that it would be hard to imagine Kevin’s life without sports. But not for parents John and Stacey. They were there when his story began, so for them, each game is a blessing from God.

“When Kevin was four he started taking in more and more fluids,” said John. “It just seemed like something was wrong.”

Something was wrong. A trip to the doctor revealed a blood sugar level around 600 and Kevin was diagnosed as a juvenile diabetic. The initial reaction of John and Stacey was the same as most parents. They felt fear.

“It was tough at first because he was our first child, and he was my boy that I was always going to watch play sports,” said John. “But we are people of faith, and we always believed in God and put it in his hands.”

From there, God took over. Kevin has played just about every sport there is since that day, without incident, and excelled at every level. This past fall, he helped Dewar football achieve one of the school’s best seasons in history as an all-district wide-out and corner. Right there along the way, as always, were his parents. They have served as an incredible support system for their son.

“I’ve always been around the practices because of Kevin’s diabetes, and having to watch him with that,” said John, noting that honey was always on the ready, especially during football season. “His mom washed the uniforms, and we put a lot of miles in. We have probably been to every park in the state.”

While the football season for Dewar was thrilling, it is baseball that’s always been in Kevin’s heart. He cut his teeth on the game, like most of his fellow Dewar seniors, under the tutelage of Cornell Roberts. Roberts had coached the same group of boys all the way up from t-ball on. Sadly, Roberts passed away last year. But his presence is definitely felt on this year’s team, one of the best in Dewar history, as his initials are on the Dragons caps.

“He did a lot for us,” said Kevin, who along with the team served as pallbearer at Roberts’ funeral. “It’s nice to know we have him with us on the field.”

And when they are on the field, good things happen. The Dragons are currently one of the top teams in Class A, and have big wins this year over perennial powerhouses Vian, Henryetta and Oktaha. Kevin is one of the best hitters in the state, ranking in the top 10 of all classes in hits and doubles. He is also in the top 10 in pitching wins and strikeouts. Those are numbers that are tough to achieve, even when you’re not taking 6-8 shots of insulin a day. They’re numbers that are sure to extend his career beyond high school.

“He’s gotten a few letters, some tryouts. We’re thrilled because college ball has always been a dream of his,” said John.

But for the Settlemyres, just being able to watch Kevin play all these years and to see him afforded the opportunity to enjoy something he loves, has been the biggest thrill. Through it all they kept their faith strong and believed that Kevin’s life, through ups and downs, had an ultimate plan.

“To think about from when he was first diagnosed and the feelings we had then, to now, and to see how far he has come, it’s been incredible,” said Kevin’s mother Stacey. “We’ve been truly blessed.”

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Volume 2, Issue 4 www.themuscogeecreeknation.com May 2009

Rebecca Landsberry

Letter from the Editor:

Happy May readers! It feels like the month has barely begun and already it seems that the finishing touches of the 35th Annual Creek Festival are being completed. I know the folks at Tourism & Recreation have been working very hard, as well as a number of departments here at the complex, to make this year's event one for the history books. It's great to hear how employees from everywhere are volunteering in order to make the Muscogee Festival a huge success.

As part of this year's festivities, the Miss Muscogee Scholarship Pageant will take place at 7 p.m., Fri., June 5 and will continue at 10 a.m., Sat., June 6 at the Henryetta High School Auditorium. It is always exciting to see a new crop of Mvskoke women crowned at this event who will, no doubt, represent our Nation with grace, dignity and beauty.

Switching gears, for those of you more interested in getting your hands (and everything else) a little dirty, the slow-pitch softball tournament is also coming up June 12-14. I won't list the times here, because if you've ever watched a game, you know they can and will play until early Sunday morning. For more information on this year's tournament, call (918) 732-7990 or toll free at 1-800-4825-1978.

For next month, we hope to have a festival preview *Extra Edition* published Mon., June 8, that will highlight all the upcoming features for the Creek Festival 2009. If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

• National Council Spotlight

Rep. David Nichols serves on the Business and Governmental Committee

LEGISLATIVE - 3

• 2009 Muscogee Festival

Welcome from the MCN Office of Tourism & Recreation

CULTURAL - 8

MUSCOGEE NATION AND MISSION NATIVE AMERICA

FILLING THE GAP

by Thompson Gouge
MCN Public Relations

OKMULGEE — On Fri., May 8, 2009, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation along with Mission Native America, distributed surplus furniture to Creek citizens who were in need.

Dr. Jerry Mash was on-site with Mission Native America in order to help meet the needs of the many Muscogee (Creek) people who showed up for the event. "The key thing was to identify people with great need," said Dr. Mash.

Preparation for this day began in November 2008 when the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Services Division helped orchestrate this event.

"The mission asked us to ensure that families in need received the furniture for their use and to not be sold for money or put in garage sales, so we tried to honor their gift to our citizens by being judicious in ensuring a citizen's need," stated Dr. Danette McIntosh, Director of Community Services. "Our staff performed assessments to determine how much property would be distributed."

The event was invitation-only and in order to receive these supplies, participants must have been eligible for others services through the tribe such as Social Services, TANF, Food Distribution, WIC, Reintegration, MCN Children and Family Services, Child Care and Head Start.

Bumper-to-bumper traffic lined the streets throughout the complex on Friday afternoon but with the help of Lighthorse Police and Muscogee (Creek) Nation employees, many needy families became the recipients of much needed supplies for their homes.

On behalf of the tribe, *mvto* (thank you) to all those who volunteered their time and effort for this event. For more information, please contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Public Relations at (918) 732 - 7618.

May deadline approaching for 2009 Festival activities

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The deadline to participate in many of the 35th Annual Muscogee Festival activities is quickly approaching. Fri., May 29, 2009 at 5 p.m., will mark the end of many opportunities to participate in friendly competition and possibly score some cash at many of this year's events.

The golf tournament, which will be held at the Okmulgee Golf Club this year, will feature both a four-man blind scramble and an individual competition June 19-21. Registration is $60 per person for the scramble and $40 per individual and includes lunch, cart and green fees. For more information, please contact Celesta Johnson at (918) 759-7944.

The co-ed volleyball tournament is open to everyone and limited to the first 20 teams. All games will be played at the Claude Cox Omniplex and the entry fee is $75. For more information, please contact Billie Harjochee at (918) 732-7960.

The adult 3-on-3 basketball tournament will begin Sat., June 13 at 9 a.m., at the Okmulgee Middle School Gym at 1421 E. Martin Luther King Drive. There is a $40 entry fee and the deadline for registration is May 31. For more information, contact Sprint Williams at (918) 853-6767 or (918) 759-1219.

Fast-pitch softball for the first 20 men's and women's teams will also be held at the Omniplex June 19-21. Entry fee will be $250 per team. For more information, call LuAnn Bemo-Bear at (918) 260-3674 or Skeet Bemo at (918) 344-0798.

Calling all graduating seniors

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — Along with highlighting the upcoming events at the 35th annual Creek Festival, June's Extra Edition will also feature all Muscogee (Creek) graduating seniors.

If you or someone you know is graduating from a high school, college, master's/doctoral program or technical school, please submit a short biography including the school from which you're graduating, parents/grandparents, clan, tribal town, activities, awards/honors and future plans along with a current photo to: Communications Dept., C/O Starla Bush, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447 or e-mail information to: SBush@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

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Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

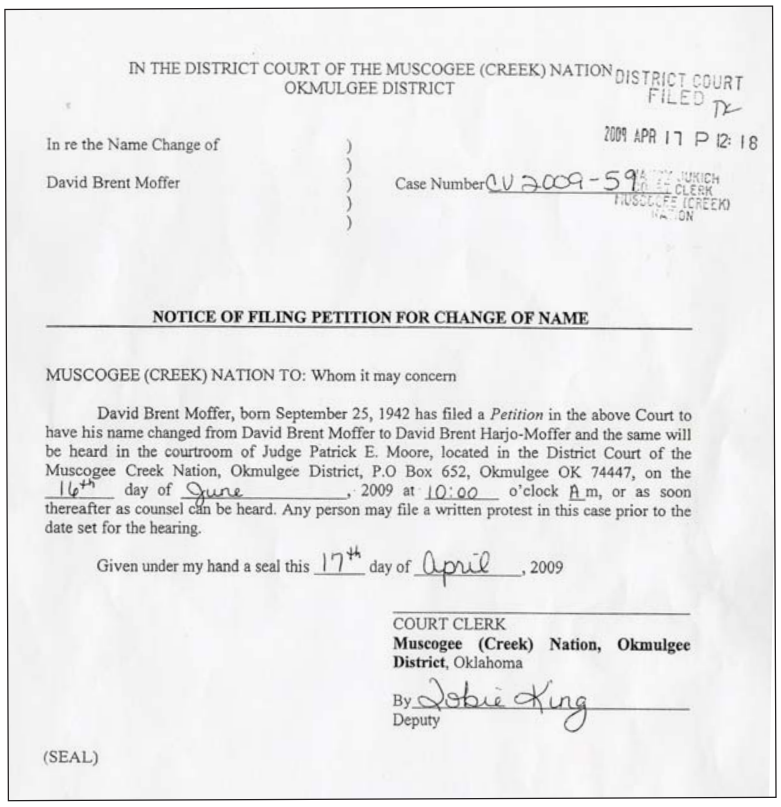
Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

EXECUTIVE

Legal notices



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED TK
2009 APR 17 P 12:18
JUKICH
CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

In re the Name Change of)
)
David Brent Moffer) Case Number CV 2009-59
)
)

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

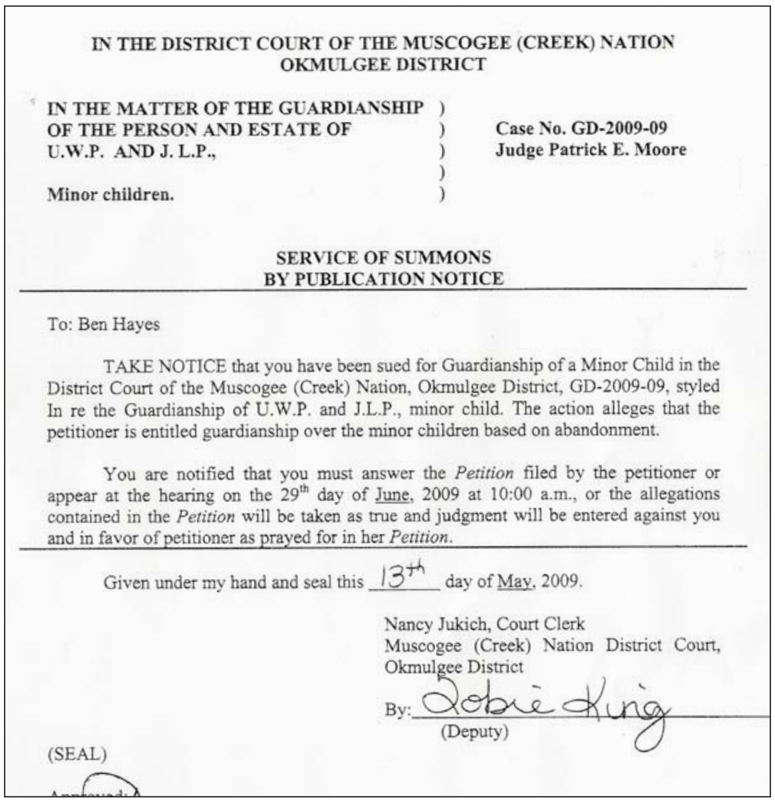
David Brent Moffer, born September 25, 1942 has filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have his name changed from David Brent Moffer to David Brent Harjo-Moffer and the same will be heard in the courtroom of Judge Patrick E. Moore, located in the District Court of the Muscogee Creek Nation, Okmulgee District, P.O Box 652, Okmulgee OK 74447, on the 16th day of June, 2009 at 10:00 o'clock Am, or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 17th day of April, 2009

COURT CLERK
Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Oklahoma

By Jobie King
Deputy

(SEAL)



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP)
OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE OF) Case No. GD-2009-09
U.W.P. AND J. L.P.,) Judge Patrick E. Moore
)
Minor children.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Ben Hayes

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for Guardianship of a Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD-2009-09, styled In re the Guardianship of U.W.P. and J.L.P., minor child. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled guardianship over the minor children based on abandonment.

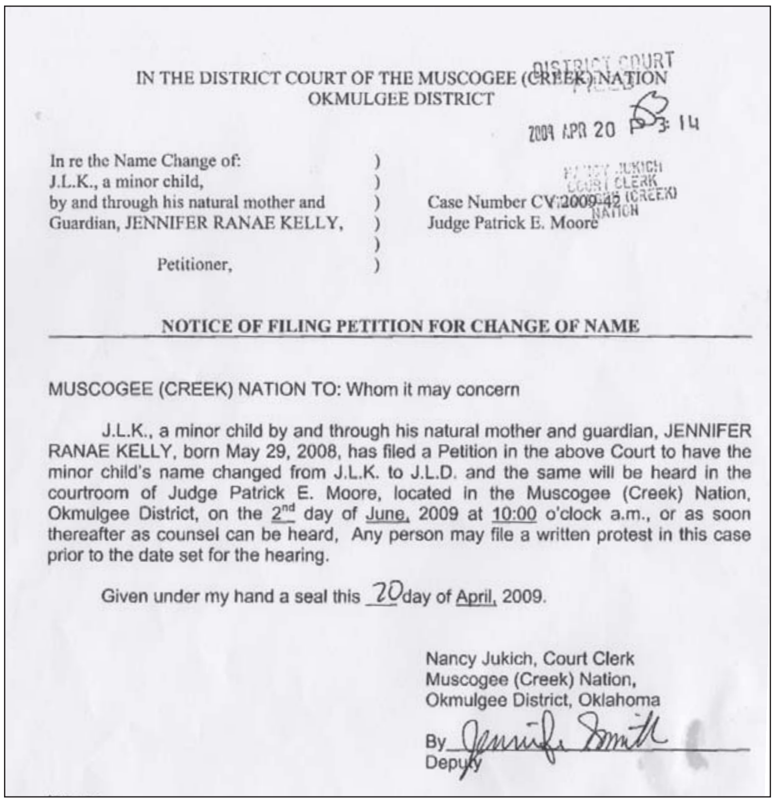
You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear at the hearing on the 29th day of June, 2009 at 10:00 a.m., or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 13th day of May, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By: Jobie King
(Deputy)

(SEAL)



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
2009 APR 20 P 3:14
JUKICH
COURT CLERK
(CREEK)
NATION

In re the Name Change of:)
J.L.K., a minor child,)
by and through his natural mother and) Case Number CV 2009-42
Guardian, JENNIFER RANAE KELLY,) Judge Patrick E. Moore
)
Petitioner,)

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

J.L.K., a minor child by and through his natural mother and guardian, JENNIFER RANAE KELLY, born May 29, 2008, has filed a Petition in the above Court to have the minor child's name changed from J.L.K. to J.L.D. and the same will be heard in the courtroom of Judge Patrick E. Moore, located in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, on the 2nd day of June, 2009 at 10:00 o'clock a.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard, Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 20 day of April, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation,
Okmulgee District, Oklahoma

By Jennifer Smith
Deputy

District Court filings for January 2009 (continued from May MNN - A4)

Tulsa Adjustment Bureau v. Norma Thompson	Foreign Judgment
Divorce:	
Joanna King v. William Petree	Divorce
Shonda Hartley v. Michael Hartley	Divorce
Kristal Bagby v. Eric Bagby II	Divorce
Joan Shepherd v. James Dickerson	Divorce
Diana Kline v. David Kline	Divorce
Amanda Soliday v. Ted Soliday	Divorce
Christina Thetford v. Cameron Thetford	Divorce
Amber Dearman v. Jeremy Dearman	Divorce
Loper Jones v. Angela Jones	Divorce
Adrienne Bowers v. Michael Bowers	Divorce
Tommy Anderson Jr., v. Henia Anderson	Divorce
Zack Pickering v. Lydia Pickering	Divorce
Family Domestic:	
TCSS, ex rel., Mark Bell Jr., v. Lydia Taylor	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Erika Dutcher v. Keith Nelson	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Kimberly Hall v. Michael Kennedy	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Dana Hagan v. Aaron Berry	Child Support
CSE, ex rel., Amanda Campbell v. Robert Martin	Child Support
Ex-Parte:	
Dorothy Burden v. Al Berryhill	Ex-Parte
Cheryl Bartosh v. Al Berryhill	Ex-Parte
Floyd Harjo v. Edna Harjo	Ex-Parte
Mary Ann Solorzano v. Joshua Pascale	Ex-Parte
Amber Dearman v. Jeremy Dearman	Ex-Parte
Criminal Misdemeanors:	
MCN v. Eugenia Gaches	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check
MCN v. Shelley Yargee	Ct. 1: Malicious Mischief
	Ct. 2: Breaking and Entering
MCN v. Marsha Harjo	Ct. 1: False Application
MCN v. Rachael July	Ct. 1: False Application
MCN v. Ronald Cleghorn	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Mary Soloranzo	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check
Criminal Felonies:	
MCN v. Tina Decke	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
	Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
MCN v. Timothy Bruner	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
Traffic:	
MCN v. Hannah Busch	Ct. 1: Duties in Event of an Accident
MCN v. Linda Berna	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Torre Dela	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Travis Miller	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Ronnie Greenhaw	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Rachael Sellers	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Mary Lou Sherman	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Mary Lou Sherman	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Ashley Phillips	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Ashley Phillips	Ct. 1: Operating in a Manner not Reasonable and Proper
MCN v. Brian Chamberlain	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Jennifer Castu	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Larry Jameson	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Shawna Stice	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Shawna Stice	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Reyes Gonzales	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Reyes Gonzales	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Johnny Stem II	Ct. 1: Driving Under Revocation
MCN v. Alejandro Alvarez	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Marco Salazar	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Marco Salazar	Ct. 1: No License
MCN v. Ike Brooks	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Steven Wood	Ct. 1: DUS

Contact Josh Slane by phone at (918) 732 - 7638 or by e-mail at JSlane@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

National Council Spotlight: Rep. David Nichols

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — David Nichols has been serving the tribe as a National Council Representative since 1994. While there was a brief break for him after 2005, Nichols came back in 2008.

"At first I was disappointed when I lost by 28 votes, but eventually I came to believe that this period of looking in was beneficial," said Nichols. He has served as many as six years consecutively. During these six years, he held Seat E for the Okmulgee District. Nichols is currently in the second year of a four-year term, which began in 2008.

Among his many goals as a National Council Representative for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Nichols has worked to cultivate the relationships between the tribal, city and state governments within Oklahoma. "I believe that is important we as a nation work together with the cities, schools and the communities in which our citizens live," said Nichols.

He explained that these needs of the schools and communities affect the daily lives of citizens living within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and there for should be a concern to the tribe as well.

One of the areas in which Nichols would like to see the tribe make some advancements is in viable businesses. He gave examples of how some tribes are expanding the scope of tribally-operated businesses, and expressed his hope that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will one day do the same.

> *" We need to take health care more seriously, we need to deliver a livable system to the people who depend on it."* –David Nichols

Nichols has been a resident of the Okmulgee area for some 45 years. As a Council Rep., he has often met with Muscogee citizens of the area and made many contacts throughout the counties that comprise the nation. As young child, Nichols was in the care of his grandmother. These years for Nichols were spent in Hughes County until he was school-aged.

It was the time Nichols spent with his grandmother that has brought attention to and perhaps gave Nichols insight to another of his primary concerns for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Nichols recalled accompanying his grandmother to Indian Health Services facilities. These trips to the nearest facilities, which in this instance would be Tecumseh, could often lead to an all day event for a simple checkup. He recalled being a youngster and sitting with his grandmother in the hallway of the clinic. "Noon might roll around and they would tell us to return after lunch," said Nichols. "After lunch we might wait until late afternoon," he continued. "Health care really hasn't changed much since I was child. We have got to take the health of our nation seriously," Nichols stated.

Nichols explained the many conversations he has had with citizens who were upset about the status quo of health care. Some illustrated the nightmarish situation of being shuffled from one facility to another while the patient was seriously ill; scenarios where patients with life-threatening cancer might be required to hop-scotch to and from health care facilities all over the Muscogee Nation.

"We need more doctors and space, our clinics are out growing themselves," said Nichols. He mentioned the need for a modern, centralized hospital and clinics located in strategic areas of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in order to serve more citizens.

"Health care is a daily job, waiting for a board to meet monthly has not worked," said Nichols. Nichols believes that the first steps to a solution for the Nation's health care took place when the administration took interest in the health care system. "Health care is the one thing that every politician promises to improve, but the reality is that it hasn't changed much," said Nichols.

2009 Living Legends nomination deadline set for May 27

Media Release
MCN Public Relations

OKMULGEE — The 35th Annual Creek Festival is seeking nominees for the Living Legends ceremony which will honor two tribal citizens who have devoted many years of service to the betterment of the Creek people.

Two individuals will be selected by a committee from nominations which are to be submitted on or before Wed., May 27, 2009. Nominees must be Creek citizens, at least 55 years of age who have devoted many years to the betterment of Muscogee Creek life, including government or other areas such as art, crafts, politics, education and/or ceremonial/religious contributions.

The committee will select two individuals from submitted nominees and honor them during the Living Legends ceremony on Fri., June 19 at 5:30 p.m., on the local stage at the Claude Cox Omniplex.

All nominees must be submitted to the Office of the Principal Chief at: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

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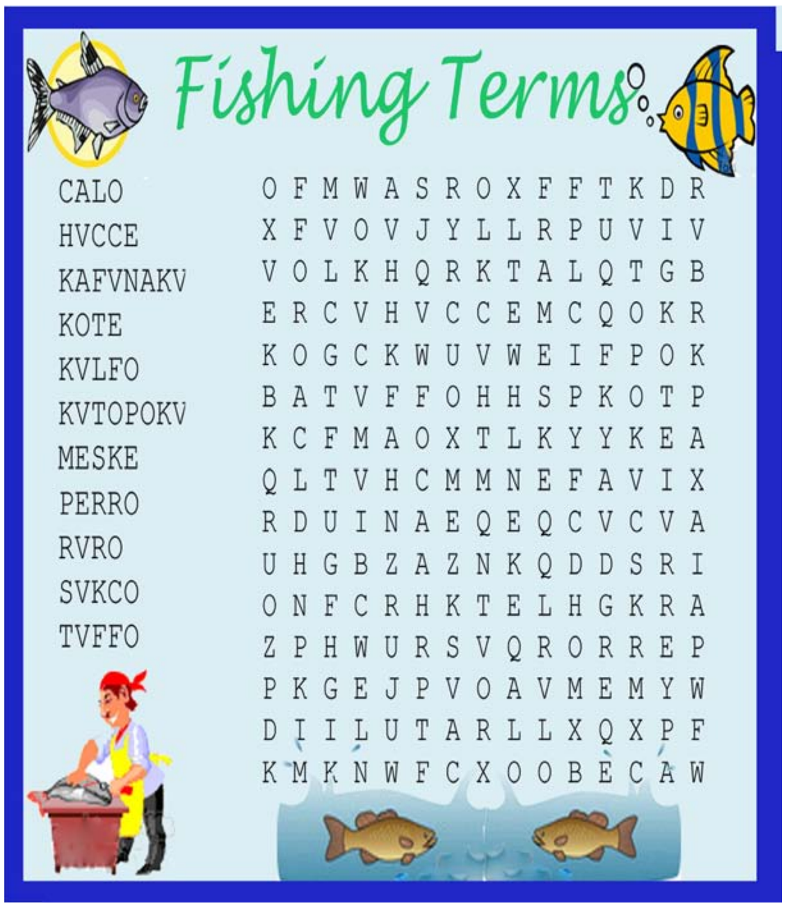

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Committee Meetings

Business / Governmental
Steve Bruner - Chairman
Pete Beaver - Vice-Chair
Larry Cahwee
Selina Jayne-Dornan
David Nichols
Travis Scott
Paula Willits

Meetings: Thursday prior to Planning Session at 6 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Tribal Affairs
Bill S. Fife - Chairman
Sam Alexander - Vice-Chair
David Hill
Adam Jones
Eddie LaGrone
Carmin Tecumseh

Meetings: Third Tuesday at 5:30 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Human Development
Johnnie Greene - Chairman
Darrell Proctor - Vice Chair
Shirlene Ade
Ron Cleghorn
James Jennings
Keeper Johnson

Meetings: 1st Monday at 7 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Community Services / Cultural
Cherrah Quiett - Chairman
Roger Barnett- Vice Chair
Terrie Anderson
Robert Hufft
Kara Medina
Lena Wind

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Community Calendar

•Wacoche Family reunion

MUSKOGEE – The Wacoche Family will celebrate their 23rd annual family reunion Sat., May 23 at Wacoche Hall on the Bacone College campus in Muskogee.

Rev. July Tecumseh will be the special speaker for the event and activities are also planned throughout the day including horseshoes, bingo, volleyball and door prize giveaways.

Organizers are asking that family members bring a covered dish and pictures to share. Donated door prizes will also be accepted.

This will be the last reunion because of health issues. For more information, please contact Jean Wacoche Berryhill at (918) 756-2318 or at (918) 629-9052.

•Alexander-Williams Family reunion

MAUD – The Alexander-Williams family reunion will be held at noon, Sat., May 23 in Maud, Okla. There will be a cookout with hamburgers and hotdogs and each family member is requested to bring a family pack of hamburger meat, wieners, hotdog/hamburger buns, a dessert, a bag of ice and any side items including lettuce, tomato, ect.

Family members are also requested to bring drinks for each of their own family members along with lawn chairs. Old family photos will be shared along with games for all ages. Donations for door prizes will be appreciated.

Descendants of the late Robert Alexander and Abbie Williams, Rose, Mary and Clara May Williams are invited to attend. Donations may be sent to Diana at P.O. Box 824, Maud, OK 74854. For more information, please contact Abbie Larney at (405) 379-3721.

COMMUNITY

LANGUAGEUPDATES

Inter-tribal Council of Five Tribes to host Native Language Summit

by Kathleen Coachman
Mvskoke Language Program

OKMULGEE — This month has been a busy time for the Language Program. We are busy preparing for the upcoming Summer Camp in June. This year, we are sending copies of a CD of the words and phrases that we will be teaching at the camp. We are also busy developing a CD with a list of words and phrases for individuals who would like to use this as a learning tool. We hope to have it completed by the latter part of June.

During the Cultural Days, we presented two DVDs of Mvskoke stories, "The Story of Night and Day" and "Alligator Story." These two stories along with additional stories will be made available on DVDs this summer. If you would like copies of the CDs or DVDs, please contact the Language Program at (918) 732-7724, so that we can put your name on a list to receive these items as soon as they become available.

Another upcoming event is the Native Language Summit, sponsored by the Inter-tribal Council of the Five Tribes, Language Revitalization Committee. Each of the five tribes will be presenting what is going on with their Language Program. Other presenters include State Education Official and Keynote Speakers. Registration is free and open to all tribes, native language educators, and anyone else who has an interest in revitalizing native languages. The Summit will be held at Bacone College on May 29-30, 2009.

The Language Program staff continues to work diligently to meet the needs of the Mvskoke people and look forward to when the CDs and DVDs will be available to those who request it. Mvto.

MFSI works with chartered communities to build food pantries

Media Release
Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative

OKMULGEE — At the beginning of this year, two Muscogee (Creek) Nation communities made small monetary donations to Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative to help their community members begin small garden projects.

Holdenville and Checotah Creek Indian Community members devoted time to discuss the food crises locally and decided that MFSI could help them provide for their own food sources.

Holdenville Indian Community wanted to start their own food pantry, so instead of writing food vouchers for members to purchase food from Wal-Mart, the community could provide food by purchasing from tribal members' fresh produce.

Many Creek citizens have knowledge of canning practices and methods of preserving other foods for the winter. MFSI has purchased a good tiller to fulfill the food needs of the communities and has tilled 20 small plots throughout the MCN boundaries.

There are first-time growers and many have planted, but have since become unable to do the hard work.

These once-thriving garden sites were easy for MFSI to till, however the new sites contained rocks and big roots that over worked our tiller and has now been broken.

MFSI will continue tilling for the communities after the tiller is repaired. The cost of repair has not been set, however, MFSI will hopefully raise the money needed to get it out as soon as possible.

There are over 40 families from throughout the MCN boundaries that have called needing help with gardens. You can help us, help the people by going to mvskokefood.org and making a generous contribution to MFSI's Community Gardens Project, an after-work volunteer effort.

For more information on Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative, please contact Co-Directors Vicky Karhu or Ben Yahola at (918) 756 - 5915.

NWHRC hosts second round of AIDS prevention

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — The National Women's Health Resource Center will host the second round of an inter-generational approach to HIV/AIDS prevention with women across the lifespan training Fri.-Sat., June 26-27, 2009 at the Okmulgee County Extension Office located at 1901 N. Oklahoma, at the Okmulgee Fairgrounds. Sessions will be held form 5:30 to 9 p.m., Fri., June 26 and from 9 to 5 p.m., on Sat., June 27.

Eligible participants include American Indian women and girls ages 12-18 interested in attending training sessions regarding HIV/AIDS prevention. A household may be defined as mother-daughter, grandmother-granddaughter and or aunt-niece living in the same house.

Those who participate will receive a mileage stipend (one per house hold please) and each participant must complete all sessions. At the end of training, each adult and girl will receive $50 only after completion of the second day of training. If a mother and daughter complete the course, they would each receive $50. If a mother and two daughters attend, then all three participants would receive $50 each. Those enrolled in the training will also be served snacks and lunch.

The goal of the program is to teach cross-generations of women and other female members of the family (12 years and older) to develop healthy communication patterns built on caring, trusting relationships. Another goal is to equip women to give accurate information about their sexual health issues between other female members of the family 12 years and over by incorporating gender-focused, age specific, culturally competent and linguistically appropriate HIV/AIDS prevention information.

The goal of the NIWHRC is to recruit 40 individuals including 10 adult women and 30 girls ages 12-18. Interested applicants may contact Kimberley Chaffin at (918) 456-6094 ext. 112 or Janie Dibble at (918) 456-6094 ext. 103.

NIWHRC is also seeking assistance in recruiting participants. Interested parties may send contact information to Kimberley Chaffin at Kimberley@niwhrc.org. Prospective recruits will then be contacted by a staff member from the National Indian Women's Health Resource Center.

INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE FIVE TRIBES

LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE

NATIVE LANGUAGE SUMMIT

May 29-30, 2009

Muskogee, Oklahoma

Bacone College

Keynote Address

Jessie Little Doe Baird

Wampanoag Language Reclamation Project

Sessions include Adult/Child Immersion, State Accreditation, College Program Development, Distance Learning, and much more. Conference is from 8am-4:30pm on Friday and 8am-4pm on Saturday.

Registration is FREE and open to all tribes, Native language educators, and anyone who has an interest in revitalizing tribal languages!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jennifer Johnson, Event Co-Coordinator

EMAIL: jennjohnson@seminolenation.com

Phone: 405-257-7261

Fax: 405-257-7209

Housing tries “green energy diet”

by Joshua Slane
Systems Analyst

Photograph submitted

Pictured above are Director of Member Services at East Central Electric Billy Moore, MCN Housing Development Manager Jeri Johnson and MCN Housing Development Specialist Gary Hudgens pose with the grant check that made this cooperation possible.

OKMULGEE — Everyone knows that we need to be good guardians of the earth, I mean, it’s only common sense, you take care of your home. However, in today’s day and time, taking care of the earth is often a prohibitively expensive proposition.

However, the costs for “going green” are almost entirely front end, with high initial expenditures partially offset through savings which will be obtained down the road.

This high initial cost has usually kept the tribe from branching out into greener pastures, but when East Central Electric approached them with a grant, a deal was formed and the two decided to work together to build a green home, as a project of sorts.

According to Billy Moore “Creek Nation Housing was already building a pretty efficient house East Central Electric just took it a step or two further.

We had them add foundation insulation. Wet blown cellulose insulation in the walls, loose blown cellulose in the attic. Tech Shield roof decking, CFL bulbs, Marathon water heater, and the big one was the Geothermal heating and cooling system. After the house was completed East Central Electric added another electric meter to register the Geo usage only and another meter to register total electric usage.

This way we could see what the heating and cooling system was doing on its own.

The first month it took about $1.23 to heat and cool on a daily average and last month it took 73 cents on a daily average.

We will continue monitoring this home for one and then be able to use this data to help educate not only the Creek Nation, but even our other member of East Central Electric,” Moore stated.

According to Country Living, the new “green” house, which houses a family of five, is being compared to a home built by Creek Nation which houses a family of four.

The improvements will have to show some serious dividends as the green improvements cost approximately $11,000 above and beyond the normal cost for building a house.

“The first month it took about $1.23 to heat and cool on a daily average and last month it took 73 cents on a daily average.” - Billy Moore

Due to this heightened cost, no more green houses such as this one are currently scheduled for construction, however the option is not entirely off the table either and the Housing Department is still in talks with East Central Electric. There is a tax credit available from the federal government for homeowners interested in going green.

According to the www.geoexchange.org and www.ipcorp.com, Geothermal / GeoExchange® heating and cooling uses the relatively constant temperature of the earth to heat and cool homes and businesses with 40 to 70 percent less energy than conventional systems. While conventional furnaces and boilers burn a fuel to generate heat, geothermal heat pumps use electricity to simply move heat from the earth into buildings, allowing much higher efficiencies. The most efficient fuel-burning heater can reach efficiencies around 95%, but a geothermal heat pump can move up to 4 units of heat for every unit of electricity needed to power the system, resulting in a practical equivalence of over 400% efficiency.

What is a radiant barrier?

Radiant Barrier is a highly reflective, low emitting material installed at the underside surface of the roof deck and the inside surface of gable ends or other vertical surfaces in attics to reduce solar heat gain into the attic.

What is TechShield Radiant Barrier Sheathing?

TechShield uses a unique patented process to laminate a thin, yet durable sheet of aluminum overlay to the surface of LP Oriented Strand Board (OSB).

How do radiant barriers “block” heat?

The aluminum radiant barrier has two properties that enable it to effectively block heat: emissivity and reflectivity. Aluminum’s low emissivity allows it to prevent up to 97 percent of the radiant heat in the panel from radiating into the attic. Its high reflectivity allows it to help block heat from your living space from escaping through your roof deck to the outside.”

Community Calendar

• Springfield to host memorial singing

OKEMAH — Springfield Methodist Church will host a memorial singing Sun., May 24 beginning at 7 p.m. Emcee for the event will be David Little and concessions will be available.

Directions from Okemah: travel two miles south on Hwy 27, four miles east then two miles south. Follow signs to church.

• All Nations to host gospel singing

MUSKOGEE — All Nations Mission Center will host a gospel singing Sun., May 24 beginning at 5 p.m. The center is located at 1530 W. Smith Ferry Rd., in Muskogee.

All gospel groups are welcome and concessions will be available. Guests are asked to bring their own lawn chairs and the emcee for the event will be Curtis Kinney.

For more information, call (918) 680-0778 or Pastor Jerry Dry at (918) 478-1970.

• Yeager Mission to host gospel singing

YEAGER — The Yeager Mission Indian Methodist Church will host a gospel singing Sat., June 13 beginning at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

Signs will be posted for this event and directions from Wetumka are: go south on Hwy 75 for five miles, turn right (east) on E. 1280 Rd., and follow blacktop road into Yeager and continue on road. Turn at second road on left-hand side, travel two more blocks and the church will be visible.

From Holdenville at the intersection of Hwy 270 and 48, travel east on 270 for approximately 3.1 miles to Yeager Rd./CR N3740, then travel five miles, cross railroad tracks and turn right at the next section.

PROGRAMS

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MCN Lifestyles

Announcements

Mr. Indian OU

NORMAN — Jalin Keawphalouk was selected "Mr. Indian OU 2009-2010" on April 6, 2009. The event was held in the Mechem Auditorium, on the campus of the University of Oklahoma.

Mr. Indian OU was awarded a scholarship and his sash. For the talent portion he played "Amazing Grace" on a Kiowa Flute.

His platform was the importance of education for our Native American students.

He is a student at the University of Oklahoma and his major is Engineering.

He was escorted by Yirkita Jireh.

He is the son of Yotin and Clara Mae Keawphalouk.

He has two siblings; Michelle and Tai.

Grandparents are the late George "Toby" Alexander and Hattie Bruner Alexander. He is the nephew of Abbie Larney.

Miss Indian OU 2009-2010 is Dayrah Yellowfish and is pictured above.

Language Art Fair

NORMAN — Three students attending the Native American Language Art Fair at the Sam Noble Museum in Norman, placed second in the 6th-8th grade, Spoken Language Division.

Cynda Factor, Angel Johnson and Courtney Taylor who portrayed the "Fallen Soldier" tribute with a prayer (Psalm 23); spoken in the Mvskoke language by Cynda and Angel.

Cynda has been participating for three years in the spoken language and winning first place, two years ago in the Individual Language category.

Cynda and Angel participated with the Alabama-Quassarte Inter-Tribal Youth Group and were taught the language by fluent Mvskoke speaker Mitch Jack.

Skit coordinators were Esther and Amy Yargee.

Cynda Factor is the daughter of Sharon Yargee and George Factor.

Angel Johnson is the daughter of Kay Lowe and Roley Johnson.

Courtney Taylor is the Granddaughter of Sylvia Taylor.

Birthdays

Madison Nicole McGirt

MOUNDS — Madison Nicole McGirt celebrated her third birthday with a theme of "Dora the Explorer" at Chuck E. Cheese.

She is the daughter of Chester and Stephanie McGirt.

She has eight siblings: R.D., Amber, Tristan, Dylan, the late Marcus (Bean), Gina, Lewis and Cordell McGirt.

Grandparents are Kay and Louis Marshall and the late Betty McGirt.

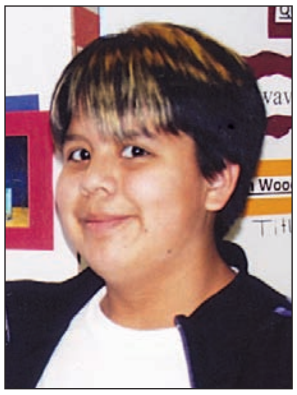
Great grandparents are the late Stoddard and Jeanetta Sullivan and the late C.O., Sr., and Samaria Marshall.

She is of the Deer Clan.

Leah Ann Hill

TECUMSEH — Leah Ann Hill is 12 years old and attends Cross Timbers Grade School in Tecumseh.

She placed first in the science fair at her school.



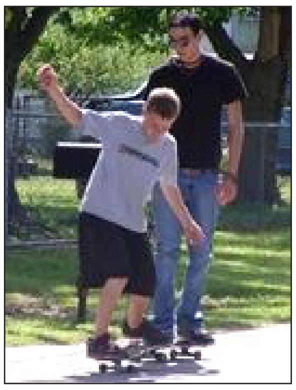
She is the daughter of Sherman Lee Hill and Annette Scott.

She has two siblings; Lila Hill and Rowdy Osceola. Paternal grandparents are Shirley Lee and the late Dave "Sonny" Hill. Maternal grandparents are Rusty Powell and Eldeen Tecumseh.

She is of the Otter Clan and attends Randall Baptist Church.

Anthony Wind and Taylor Scott

KIEFER — Anthony Wind Scott celebrated his birthday on March 7 and brother, Taylor Grant Wind celebrated his birthday on April 11.



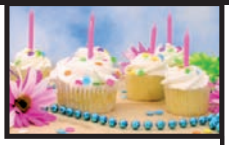
Parents are Tommy and Robyn Wind-Tiger and Calvin Scott. Maternal grandparents are Georgia Gentry Wind and Grover and Melodie Wind.

Paternal grandparents are the late Doris Davis and the late Curtis Edward Scott. Maternal great grandparents are the late Jack W. Gentry and Sylvia S. Gentry and the late Jessie A. Wind Sr., and late Lillie Squirrel Wind.

They both attend Glenpool High School and are of the Bear Clan and the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town.

Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:



Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)____________
Name: ____
Address:____
Date of Birth: ______________________________________
Theme of the party:___________________________________
Parents: ____
Siblings: ____
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
School: ____
Clan: ____
Tribal Town:____

Birth:

Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)____________
Name: ____
Address:____
Date of Birth: ______________________________________
Name of Hospital: ___________________________________
Weight: ______ **pounds** ______ **ounces**______**inches**
Parents: ____
Siblings: ____
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ____
Tribal Town:____

Announcements:

Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)____________
Name: ____
Address:____
Parents: ____
Siblings: ____
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ____
Tribal Town:____
Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Contact Starla Bush by phone at (918) 732 - 7636 or by E-mail at SBush@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Amateur boxing teams battle at New York

• Oklahoma Indian boxers to fight Seneca Team in one-day event

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Sports Reporter

AKWESASNE, N.Y., –Under the guidance of long time east coast trainer Bob Miller, the Seneca Nation and the Native American Boxing Council (NABC), an amateur tournament will be held between Native American amateur Boxers from Oklahoma and New York.

The tournament will be held in Akwesasne, N.Y., Sat., May 30 at the All-In Lounge beginning at 7 p.m.

Miller, who is a trainer and Eastern Tournament Director of the New York Golden, contacted Gerald Wofford, President of the NABC about inviting a team to New York for the event. “We are proud to be bringing a team to the east coast for this event,” said Wofford, “we know there are plenty of good Native American amateur boxers all over the country and hope that New York gets a chance to see these boxers from Oklahoma and what they can do.”

Miller agrees and also hopes that the event will spark interest among local Native American youth in the New York area to consider participating in boxing, “We are trying to create interest to get more Indian youth to box, I figure I can bring them in from different parts of the state,” Miller said.

The NABC plans to create a follow-up tournament in September in Oklahoma and invite teams from N.Y., Ariz., NM., S.D., Neb., and Canada as well.

In related news, a National Native American Boxing Championship will be planned by the Native American Amateur Boxing Association (NAABA) and is tentatively scheduled for June at Haskell Indian Nations University.

As such, NAABA’s agreement with USA Boxing will assist and enhance NAABA’s intent to create a program of athletic excellence for Native American Amateur Boxing at both the National and International level. Further, NAABA proposes to provide a platform for developing the sport through communication and education; provide leadership in its promotion; maintain a role as a leader in the development of boxing equipment and safety rules; and comply with all required official rules, regulations and policies of USA Boxing.

OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

Is Native American fast-pitch softball a dying sport?

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Sports Reporter

This is a tough question, probably the toughest I have had to deal with concerning the illustrious history of ‘Old School vs. New School’.

I have to say that yes it is a ‘dying sport,’ and it’s not easy for me to say that.

The reason is because it deals with matters of the heart (yes you can call me an old softie, not sofke or relic, or whatever). I guess that’s why I got the column of old school in the first place, but the reason I feel so attached to this subject and the stand I am taking is remembering those old leagues from the 70s and the great competition you would see from Indian men in their 20s, 30s, and even in their 40s out giving it their all in summer leagues and weekend tournaments.

The games weren’t just played on weekends, but also on weeknights. Standings were placed in daily newspapers and Indian teams didn’t just play each other, but teams that weren’t Native American as well.

The teams gained local status and if you ask anyone that remembers that era, they’ll reminisce about the remarkable games they saw and the fierce level of competition that was displayed.

The fast-pitch era ushered in the slow-pitch game, and with that allowed for more people to play. Now this isn’t necessarily bad because this invites everyone, but in a way the fast pitch game was affected by this. Because the ability to play fast pitch requires greater athletic talent and commitment. I mean why go hit a speeding fast softball when a slow arching softball has competitive leagues and the opportunity to play longer in age is available.

So it’s tough to say this because I would like to see it continue forever, but time changes things, and it did with this.

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

You could certainly make an argument here that Native American fast-pitch is not as popular as it once was. The good ‘ol days of 30-team tournaments definitely seems like a thing of the past. There’s just not a lot of people playing fast-pitch anymore. But I don’t think that the sport is necessarily dying.

I think there has to be interest in the Native American youth to keep it going. It’s the young kids that are going to have to start playing the game more. There are encouraging signs though, because there are many younger players putting teams together and getting involved.

My uncle, who was a player/manager for Turkey Springs softball, told me that he worries sometimes that it will never be as big as it once was. I tell you what, sitting around listening to his stories about the all-Indian state tournaments back in the hey-day when there were more teams than they knew what to do with, never gets old to me. There’s a certain history of the game too, that he says needs to be remembered. It needs to be played the right way. No trash talk, just fundamentals and a lot of effort. To me, the tribal festivals during the summer are carrying the torch right now. These festivals are mostly where you are going to find the best competition around here anymore.

Heck, a local team a couple years back had to go clear to Florida to find a tournament that would even partly resemble what kind they used to play in back in the 70s. Back then, these tournaments were the social events. Not only would you play, but you could visit and have fun afterward. That’s what we need to get back to. Make sure everyone knows how great of a game fast-pitch is, then let the rest take care of itself. It’ll come back around.

Contact Gerald Wofford by phone at (918) 732 - 7635 or by e-mail at GWofford@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Sports Calendar

• Native American Warriors’ Society to host summer pool and golf tournaments

TULSA—The Native American Warriors’ Society will host a pool tournament that will benefit currently active Native American service men and women in the form of care packages to be sent to Iraq and Afghanistan.

The pool tournament will be held June 12-13 at Magoo’s in Tulsa. Registration will begin at 6:30 p.m., on Fri., June 12 followed by play beginning at 7 p.m., and on Sat., at 1 p.m. Magoo’s management will run the tournament which will feature a double-elimination format.

The tournament will feature 32 men and 16 women and the entry fee is set at $25 per person ($10 of which will go directly to the care packages). Participants must be at least 1/4 Native American degree according to their CDIB card in order to be eligible for play.

A golf challenge is also in the works for Fri., July 17 at the Cherokee Hills Golf Club located at 777 W. Cherokee St., in Catoosa, Okla. Registration will begin at 7 a.m., followed by a shotgun start at 8:30. The format will be a four-person scramble. The entree fees will be $95 for individuals or $380 for a team of four and will include green fee, cart, range balls, lunch, goodie bags, PGA golf passport discount book and a return-play discount card from Cherokee Hills Golf Club.

Hole and team sponsorships are available and prizes will be awarded for first and second place teams, the longest drive, closest to the pin and hole-in-one. Four people will also have the chance to win $100,000 at a shoot-out.

Monetary and supply donations (food, practical and personal hygiene items) for care packages will be accepted and appreciated at both events. For more information and a complete list of items that may be donated, please contact Janene Alford at (918) 587-1109 or (918) 344-1270.

• 6th annual All Nations Bowling Tournament

OKLAHOMA CITY – The sixth annual All Nations Bowling Tournament will be held June 5-7 at Holiday Lanes located at 44 SE 44th in Oklahoma City.

There are a singles/doubles spots as well as a mixed team format. Special room rates are available at the Quality Inn located at 1-240 and Western. For more information, please call (405) 634-2451.

Cultural Calendar

• Scooter to be raffled at 35th annual Creek Festival

OKMULGEE—The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office Tourism & Recreation is currently selling tickets to win a 2009 KYMCO Grandvista 250 scooter.

The scooter will get an estimated 70 MPG and will be given away during the 2009 Muscogee Nation Festival on Sat., June 20, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets for the drawing may be purchased at the Office of Tourism & Recreation in the main building of the MCN complex. Tickets will be sold for $2 each or three may be purchased for $5.

Participants need not be present to win. For more information, please contact the Office of Tourism & Recreation at (918) 732-7993.

• Arts and Crafts booth space still available

OKMULGEE — Tourism and Recreation would like to extend an invitation to all artisans in the chartered Creek communities to participate in the 2009 Festival.

If you or someone you know is an artist or craftsman, consider purchasing a 15'x20' booth space at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival in June 2009.

For more information, contact Brian On-The-Hill at Tourism & Recreation at (918) 732-7993 to receive a booth application. Spots will be available until filled.

The 35th Annual Creek Festival

• Celebrating Muscogee (Creek) people, culture and heritage

by Brian On-The-Hill
MCN Tourism & Recreation

OKMULGEE — This year marks the 35th anniversary of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival in Okmulgee, Okla. Renowned for exciting entertainment and numerous activities, the Festival is host to thousands of spectators and participants during the first three weekends in June. This year's theme, "From the Same Fire," refers to the Creator's gift of fire given to the Muscogee people when the Earth was new.

The Festival begins with the Miss Muscogee Scholarship Pageant. The Miss and Jr. Miss categories will be held June 5 at 7 p.m., followed by the Little Miss and Sr. Miss categories on June 6 at 10 a.m. Both days of the pageant will be held at the Henryetta High School Auditorium in Henryetta, Okla. Witness the skills, talents and beauty of Muscogee women from the age of four years to 55 and better.

June 12-13, the slow-pitch softball tournament bats off at the Claude Cox Omniplex just west of the intersection of Highway 75 and Loop 56 in Okmulgee, Okla. This weekend includes arts and crafts and food vendors throughout the day and live entertainment featuring Tulsa band Imzadi at 7 p.m. Saturday evening.

The official Festival weekend kicks off with a ceremonial Stomp Dance and free feed on Thurs., June 18 at 6 p.m., on the campus of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex on the southeast corner of the intersection of Highway 75 and Loop 56 in Okmulgee, Okla. Festival activities accelerate through June 21 at the Claude Cox Omniplex and include an IPRA rodeo; concerts featuring Brandy, Joe Diffie, and James Otto; sports tournaments; arts and crafts; food vendors; a parade through historic downtown Okmulgee; children's activities and much more. All events are FREE and everyone is welcome.

Join us for this momentous gathering and enjoy meeting old friends and new acquaintances. Place a float in the parade and advertise your program or company.

For a complete listing of times, events and contacts, visit the Festival Event section of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's official website www.themuscogeecreeknation.com.

Because the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is a large contributor to the economy of Oklahoma, we feel that the MCN Festival is the perfect opportunity for everyone to come together and celebrate our efforts in making positive accomplishments throughout the year. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Committee invites any and all parties interested in joining the celebration to become a sponsor of the MCN Festival. Sponsorships are available at several different levels and the Festival Committee is open to developing one that fits best with your company or organization.

For more information or to become a sponsor, please contact The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Tourism & Recreation at (918) 732-7993 or toll-free at (800) 482-1979. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is a tribal government located in east central Oklahoma. The Creek Nation boundary includes eleven counties: Creek, Hughes (Tukvpvtce), Mayes, McIntosh, Muskogee, Okfuskee, Okmulgee, Rogers, Seminole, Tulsa and Wagoner.

"I have Lupus but it doesn't have me"

• Citizen shares journey with illness for Lupus Awareness Month

submitted by Racheal Sumka
Office of the Principal Chief

OKMULGEE — May is Lupus Awareness month. Lupus is a widespread, chronic (lifelong) and terminal (some cases) autoimmune disease that for unknown reasons, causes the immune system to attack the body's own tissue and organs, including the joints, kidneys, heart, lungs, brain, blood, liver or skin.

The immune system normally protects the body against viruses, bacteria, etc. In an autoimmune disease like lupus, the immune system loses its ability to tell the difference between foreign substances and its own cells and tissue. The immune system then makes antibodies directed against "self."

Researchers estimate that at least 1.5 million Americans have lupus. Lupus strikes mostly women of childbearing age (15-44). However, men, children and teens may develop lupus, too. Minority women (African Americans, Hispanics, Asians and Native Americans) are 2-3 times more likely to develop lupus.

What are the symptoms of lupus? Symptoms of lupus often mimic other less serious illnesses. Symptoms can range from mild to life-threatening. Lupus can go into periods where symptoms are not present, called remission.

SYMPTOMS	OCCURRENCE
Achy joints	95%
Arthritis (swollen joints)	90%
Skin rashes	74%
Kidney involvement	50%
Seizures	15%
Mouth or nose ulcers	12%
Hair loss	27%
Memory loss (mostly short term)	95%
Prolonged or extreme fatigue	81%
Pain in the chest on deep breathing	45%
Butterfly-shaped rash across the cheek and nose	42%
Sun or light sensitivity (photosensitivity)	30%
Abnormal blood clotting problems	20%

Lupus is not infectious, rare, cancerous or AIDS. Researchers do not know what causes lupus. Scientists believe there is a genetic predisposition to the disease; it is known that environmental factors also play a role in triggering the disease. Although, a person's genes may increase the chance that he or she will develop lupus, some factors that may trigger lupus include infections, antibiotics (penicillin, amoxicillin), ultraviolet light from fluorescent light bulbs, extreme stress, certain drugs and hormones. Hormonal factors may explain why lupus occurs more frequently in females than in males.

Although there is no known cure as of yet, researchers across the world are experimenting with many different drugs.

Increased professional awareness and improved diagnostic techniques and evaluation methods are contributing to the early diagnosis and treatment of lupus. Lupus is also a disease of flares (the symptoms worsen and you feel ill) and remissions (the symptoms improve and you feel better). Lupus can range from mild to life-threatening and should always be treated by a doctor. With current methods of therapy 80-90 percent of people with non-organ threatening lupus can look forward to a normal lifespan.

The above information was obtained from the Lupus Foundation and other informational sites, in hopes of making people aware of this illness.

I have lupus, but it doesn't have me. I was diagnosed with lupus approximately five years ago. It most definitely is a battle each day I wake up but it's not so big that the Lord can't handle it because I left this illness in his hands.

Sure, I experienced moments of depression, feeling sorrow for myself, that's when I realized I can't fight this battle alone. People around me occasionally have to hear me complain, they are sympathetic, because sometimes it helps to talk to someone about it but what really helps is talking to someone who is experiencing what I'm experiencing.

I have a niece, some cousins and a few friends that have this illness also. I don't know of any local support groups, so it helps when my friends and I compare our symptoms. We encourage one another and we always end the conversation with "I'll pray for you." That's why I know the Lord is fighting this battle with me, if not for me.

- Rachel Sumka

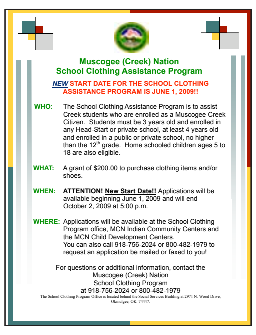
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

Creek business goes up-scale BUSINESS AND GAMING - A5

School Clothing Program now available

PROGRAMS/

NOTICES - A8



Muscogee (Creek) Nation
School Clothing Assistance Program

***NEW* START DATE FOR THE SCHOOL CLOTHING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IS JUNE 1, 2009!!**

WHO: The School Clothing Assistance Program is to assist Creek students who are enrolled as a Muscogee Creek Citizen. Students must be 3 years old and enrolled in any Head-Start or private school, at least 4 years old and enrolled in a public or private school, no higher than the 12th grade. Home schooled children ages 5 to 18 are also eligible.

WHAT: A grant of $200.00 to purchase clothing items and/or shoes.

WHEN: **ATTENTION! New Start Date!!** Applications will be available beginning June 1, 2009 and will end October 2, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

WHERE: Applications will be available at the School Clothing Program office, MCN Indian Community Centers and the MCN Child Development Centers.
You can also call 918-756-2024 or 800-482-1979 to request an application be mailed or faxed to you!

For questions or additional information, contact the
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
School Clothing Program
at 918-756-2024 or 800-482-1979
The School Clothing Program Office is located behind the Social Services Building at 2971 N. Wood Drive, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

MUSCOGEE NATION
NEWS

JUNE 2009
Volume 39, Issue 6
SEMI-MONTHLY

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

Jenks holds Native graduation

• Former Chief and Coach Perry Beaver honored

PRSRT FIRST CLASS
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MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Pictured above is former Principal Chief Perry Beaver who was honored for his service as both a forerunner of Native American education and as a coach at Jenks Public Schools at the first ever Native convocation ceremony for the graduating Class of 2009.

CONVOCATION THE NATIVE WAY

JENKS — Jenks Public Schools hosted its first Native American convocation for graduating seniors on Saturday, May 16 on the school's campus.

According to Jenks graduation regulations, students are not allowed to wear traditional clothing under their gowns, so they decided to take matters into their own hands when it came to tossing their tassled hats in the air at the end of the evening.

Former Principal Chief Perry Beaver who also served as a Coach for Jenks along with being one of the pioneers of the Native American Education program there, was also honored during the ceremony

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Communities appeal CV09-34

• Communities' attempt to secure Interlocutory Appeal denied

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Pictured above The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court Justices heard the Chartered Communities Intent to Appeal. The court heard arguments from the council for Principal Chief as well as the all council for the Communities.

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — In the second case to come before the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court in 2009, the chartered communities named in CV09-34 sought a Motion for Leave to file an Interlocutory Appeal. Conclusions from the Supreme Court found an Interlocutory Appeal counter productive and did not grant the Appeal.

The Bristow, Checotah, Duck Creek, Eufaula, Holdenville, and Okemah Chartered Communities of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation sought to have the District Court Order from May 8, 2009 set aside for alleged abuses. Along with a revision of the District Court Order the communities sought the return of funds, accounts, revenues, proceeds, and documents seized for auditing purposes.

With the consideration of rules for Interlocutory Appeals, the Supreme Court's conclusion stated, "In the Best interest of all Parties and the Muscogee (Creek) People, the Court finds that any ensuing stay, disruption, delay, or otherwise complication of the ordered forensic audits would serve no useful purpose."

Deadline lapses on Petition for Removal

Media Release
MCN Public Relations

OKMULGEE — On March 20, 2009, a Notice of Petition to Remove a Public Officer, A.D. Ellis as Principal Chief, was filed by Deborah Pruitt to the Election Board of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

As of 5:02 p.m., Tues., May 19, 2009, the National Council had not received a signed petition showing cause of removal containing 20 percent of the registered voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation which would be 3,238 of 16,192 total voters.

The deadline to attain the 3,238 signatures within the 60 days of the filed petition was 5 p.m., Tues., May 19, 2009.

The Notice of Petition to Remove a Public Officer was not returned before 5 p.m., on May 19, 2009, therefore halting any further action to be taken on this particular Petition.

National Council candidate fair set for July 6, 2009

Media Release
MCN Election Board

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board will conduct the National Council elections in Fall 2009. The primary election will be held Sat., Sept. 19 followed by a general election to be held on Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009 at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

In order to become a registered Muscogee (Creek) voter, one must be an enrolled citizen of the Creek Nation, be 18 years of age or older, register or be willing to register in a specified jurisdictional area. Additionally, any registered voter may become an absentee voter, and registered voters living outside out the official boundaries of the MCN are registered as absentee voters. The Election Board will not accept copies of the registration form for official registration.

SEE ELECTION - A3

EXECUTIVE A2

Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court filings and letters to the Editor

LEGISLATIVE A3

National Council minutes

JUDICIAL A4

Law professor authors a guide to Oklahoma Indian Tribes

BUSINESS/GAMING A5

Creek Film Maker to speak at luncheon of the Native Business Network

HEALTH A6

Nurses of Muscogee (Creek) Nations Health System

EDUCATION A8

Program Spotlight: Mvskoke Language Public School Program

Communications Department - P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447

Muscogee Nation News
STAFF
Manager - Lucas Taylor
Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
Senior Writer - Angel Ellis
Feature Writer - Gerald Wofford
Sports Writer - Jason Salsman
Reporter - Starla Bush
Reporter - Joshua Slane
Reporter - Jennifer Taryole
Intern - Lee Longhorn
Advertising - Ruth Bible
Graphic Design - Carla Brown
Graphic Design - Tyler Roberds
Graphic Design - Crystal Lumpkin
Circulation - Wilma Murphy

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News*** unless other copyrights are shown.

Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

District Court filings for Jan. 2009 (continued)

MCN v. Ronnie Greenhaw	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Rachael Sellers	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Mary Lou Sherman	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Mary Lou Sherman	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Ashley Phillips	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Ashley Phillips	Ct. 1: Operating in a Manner not Reasonable and Proper
MCN v. Brian Chamberlain	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Jennifer Castu	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Larry Jameson	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Shawna Stice	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Shawna Stice	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Reyes Gonzales	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Reyes Gonzales	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Johnny Stem II	Ct. 1: Driving Under Revocation
MCN v. Alejandro Alvarez	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Marco Salazar	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Marco Salazar	Ct. 1: No License
MCN v. Ike Brooks	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Steven Wood	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Barry Sharp	Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
MCN v. Cody Gant	Ct. 1: DUR
MCN v. Anthony Acebo	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. James Gordon	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. James Gordon	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. James Gordon	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Jeffrey Miller	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Jeffrey Miller	Ct. 1: No

District Court filings for Feb. 2009

The District Court filings from February 1, 2009 thru February 28, 2009 are as follows:

Civil:

Saber Acceptance v. Doug & Sandra Fraley	Foreign Judgment
Saber Acceptance v. Sandra & Marvin Fraley	Foreign Judgment
Saber Acceptance v. Beverly Sullivan	Foreign Judgment
Michael Little v. Codi Dale	Petition
Miranda Nunn v. Anthony Hicks	Petition
Deborah Mondier v. Thomas Bruton	Petition
Jamie Walker v. Teddy Helton Jr.	Petition
Larry Doba v. Erika Hosp	Petition
First Nat'l Bank & Trust v. Crystal Ruth	Foreign Judgment
Alicia Burnside v. Charles Ballard	Petition
Parts Barn v. Johnny Harjo	Foreign Judgment
Loans Plus v. George Marshall	Small Claims
Nelson Auto v. Chad Deere	Small Claims
Brandon Dennis v. Cassia Epperson	Petition
Fusyahega Factor v. Lawrence Carpitcher	Petition
Christina Campbell	Name Change
Jerome Chupco	Name Change
Max Tanner v. Jeannie Gibbons	Petition
Korian Baker v. Dasaray Jones	Petition
Royal Finance v. Betsy Varner	Small Claims
Tara Dunson v. Boone Watson	Petition
A.D. Ellis, in his official capacity as Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, v. Bristow Muscogee Indian Community, Checotah Muscogee Creek Indian Community, Duck Creek Indian Community, Eufaula Indian Community, Holdenville Creek Indian Community, and Okemah Indian Community, chartered communities of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation	Petition

Divorce:

Lindsey Benavidez v. Jason Benavidez	Divorce
James Berryhill v. Shelly Berryhill	Divorce
Connie Schad v. Joseph Schad	Divorce
Benjamin Sapulpa v. Jamie Sapulpa	Divorce
Eddie Leader v. Susan Leader	Divorce
Bradley Edmundson v. Lori Edmundson	Divorce
Robert Dobbs v. Karen Dobbs	Divorce
Lana Leathers v. Brandon Leathers	Divorce
David Long v. Shawn Long	Divorce
Lana Salazar v. Manuel Salazar	Divorce
Serena Torres v. Venancio Torres	Divorce
Sheri Tiger v. Benjamin Tiger	Divorce
Ty Hicks v. Teshauna Hicks	Divorce
Rose Alleman v. Richard Alleman	Divorce
Roxanne McElvogue v. Timothy McElvogue	Divorce
Heather Hacker v. Travis Hacker	Divorce

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex rel., Cassandra Deere v. Terry Jones	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Crystal Treadway v. Toby Watashe	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Pamela Benson v. Reginald Benson	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Simone Wasson v. Mitchell Seifried	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Kimberly Mann v. Kenneth Crain	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Jamie Walker v. Teddy Helton Jr.	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Kerry Herron v. Jeremy Orange	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., April Billy v. Silas Baker	Child Support

Ex-Parte:

Michelle Kalinich v. Thomas Kalinich	Ex-Parte
Brenna Littlehead v. James Hayes Jr.	Ex-Parte
Stephanie Sutton v. Albert Sutton Jr.	Ex-Parte
Stephanie Sutton v. Albert Sutton Jr.	Ex-Parte

Criminal Misdemeanors:

MCN v. Kenneth Lewis	Ct. 1: Trespassing Ct. 2: Public Intoxication Ct. 3: Open Container
MCN v. Eugenia Marshall	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
MCN v. Cynthia Wilson	Ct. 1: Trespassing

Criminal Felonies:

MCN v. Mannie Lee-Smith	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
MCN v. Jonathon Bear	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs Ct. 2: Public Intoxication
MCN v. Brady Machenzie	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs Ct. 2: Public Intoxication
MCN v. Mark Park	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs

Traffic:

MCN v. Gary Stewart	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning and Stopping without regard to Safety
MCN v. Kenneth Lewis	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Harry French	Ct. 1: Expired Tag

Letters to the Editor

Citizen proposes economic development plan focused on "green" energy

To Editor of the MNN:

Now that the Tulsa casino is up and running,.. something I read recently keeps bothering me. Its a fact that Oklahoma now has more Indian casino's than any state in the union and we just keep on building them. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out we'll reach the "saturation point" one of these days and then something's got to give.

Also, I'm not a devout Christian, but I was raised that way, and its always bothered me a little bit that we make most of our money now from gambling which has destroyed many families and lives and cigarettes which have caused people to die, gasping for their Last Breath. (the "Hece" used at our ceremonial grounds, is not the same). I guess you could say we're getting the este hvtkes back for the way they treated us but still, I wish we could do it some other way.

We also need to RISE ABOVE all the petty, vindictiveness that has permeated our tribe for YEARS now. The fighting amongst ourselves is what caused us to lose everything we had in our ancestral homelands TO BEGIN WITH and it still continues today. To our elected representatives I say, I beg, I pray! ..Think of your PEOPLE FIRST and yourself LAST.

I propose we start plowing back a majority of our money from gambling and cigarettes into two areas,.. the first is, the FOOD CHAIN,.. people will always have to eat, and statistics show that rising demands for food in the future may not be met by current production. Demands for power and electricity are also rising incrementally and there is a great need for clean, economical ENERGY that will not pollute our land, water or air.

I say we start to utilize more of our grazing and farmlands and BUY BACK as much of our original land base as possible, because land ownership is POWER and as Will Rogers said, "An they ain't makin' anymore of it!.." (although present and past administrations have thought, if you can't put a smokeshop, casino or travel plaza on it, its worthless..) Lake Eufaula could be utilized or we could build our own ponds for an aquaculture operation that could provide food and income in the future. The Japanese have been doing it for centuries.

We could build greenhouses and produce food year-round in the fertile river bottoms that crisscross our land. Establish stores and restaurants to retail our bounty and set a certain percentage aside to feed ourselves.

The Creator has blessed us with two forms of energy that are both FREE and will not spoil our environment. The Sun and the Wind! I say we take advantage of what's been offered to us and invest in things that will be good for us and everyone else. Both are not as economical now as they should be, but advancements are being made daily to change that.

So, with respect to our Mother Earth, we put our land into food and energy production, establish our own distribution system for both, and thusly, control the whole process, from beginning to end. Cutting out the middle man (distributors) will contribute to keeping prices down and not only do we benefit, but the whole planet does!

As descendants of the original "owners" or inhabitants of this land, I believe it is our sacred responsibility to be its "caretakers". We were not placed on this earth to just help ourselves, but to help others and to leave this place in better shape than before, for our children, grandchildren and all those who will follow. Our legacy, as Native people, should be one of care and understanding of our place in this world and all those who inhabit it.

I'm working on all the "details" to make this a feasible, sustainable plan to submit to our Chief and National council so , I'm not just "pipe-dreaming". I can do it,... but I can't do it by myself. A few people have already volunteered to help and as far as I'm concerned, the more the better.

If all you do is voice your support or encouragement, that'll be gladly accepted too, so I'll know I'm not the only one that feels this way. If you have an idea of your own,.. I wanna hear it!

This tribe is ATE UP with people who can come up with reasons WHY THIS CAN'T BE DONE, and to all those people I say, don't waste my time and yours, cause I'm not payin any attention to your NEGATIVE THOUGHTS AND WISHES.

However, if you agree with what I'm sayin' (and I got A LOT MORE to say) then do me a favor and e-mail me at: efvhaco@live.com with Love, Compassion and Respect,

Vern Courtwright
EFV HACO (Crazy Dog)

Citizen remembers Creek author Jean (Hill) Chaudhuri

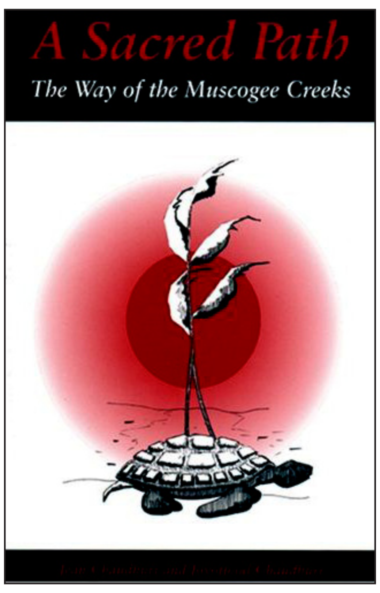
To Editor of the MNN:

The late Jean (Hill) Chaudhuri of the Bear Clan was a very devoted member of the tribe and the mother of Jonodev Osceola Chaudhuri of the Muscogee Nation's Supreme Court.Among her many accomplishments she was the major author of the book "A Sacred Path-the Way of the Muscogee Creeks" which has been reprinted by UCLA's American Indian Studies program.

Jean's painstaking work over many years involved collection of much oral history. She was fluent in Creek and interviewed many elders among the Creeks and Seminoles in Oklahoma and Florida. In her childhood in rural Okfuskee county she lived with a great source of oral history "Grandpa" James Scott who was on the Trail before coming to live with Wilburn and Mary Hill on an allotment in the rural outskirts of Okemah. The book is rich source for understanding how the classic Creek stories were logically and deeply inter-related.

The book usually sells for about $15 and is available through several sources including Amazon.com, UCLA's American Indian Studies program (sales@aisc.ucla.edu), small press distribution (for bookstores), the Creek Council House Museum Bookstore and possibly Tulsa's Gilcrease Museum Bookstore.

I have no interest in any profit but have a deep interest in sharing with Creek people some insight into Creek traditional values, and an interest in the future of the great tribe.



Joyotpaul "Joy" Chaudhuri
Professor Emeritus
Arizona State University

LEGISLATIVE

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION NATIONAL COUNCIL
Session Palen - Cahkepohkaken (15)
2008-2009

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE **APRIL 25, QUARTERLY SESSION**.

APRIL 25, QUARTERLY SESSION

VETO MESSAGE:

• MOTION FAILED TO HAVE VETO MESSAGE READ AND VETO OVER-RIDE DID NOT RECEIVE 2/3 VOTE OF MEMBERSHIP (15-11-0) NCA 09-041, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 22, CHAPTER 4 AND MCNCA TITLE 16 CHAPTER 1 TO RESTORE THE PREVIOUS LANGUAGE IN EACH TITLE AND CHAPTER ESTABLISHING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM AS AN INDEPENDENT AGENCY AND ESTABLISHING THE HEALTH SYSTEM BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND REPEALING NCA 09-028 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 22, CHAPTER 4 AND MCNCA TITLE 16, CHAPTER 1, CREATING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF HEALTH WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE NATION) RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DARRELL PROCTOR, PETE BEAVER, DAVID NICHOLS, KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE ANDERSON, JAMES JENNINGS, THOMAS YAHOLA, CHERRAH QUIETT, STEVE BRUNER, PAULA WILLITS** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

• MOTION CARRIED TO HAVE VETO MESSAGE READ AND VETO OVER-RIDE (20-6-0) NCA 09-042, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 11. COMMUNITIES EMETVLHVMKVKE, CHAPTER 4. CHARTERED COMMUNITY USE OF TRIBAL LANDS AND BUILDINGS, §4-102. LEASE AGREEMENTS, §4-201. RENOVATION AND CANCELLATION AND §4-302. RIGHT OF RE-ENTRY RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **PETE BEAVER, DAVID NICHOLS, KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE ANDERSON, JAMES JENNINGS** AND **PAULA WILLITS**.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• MOTION TO MOVE TR 09-025, TR 09-026, TR 09-027 AND NCA 09-062 TO BOTTOM OF THE AGENDA CARRIED (ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) TR 09-029, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN AIRSPACE LEASE WITH THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) TR 09-030, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH ONEOK ENERGY MARKETING COMPANY FOR AN INITIAL TERM OF THREE YEARS SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) TR 09-033, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE MOBILE HOME TRANSPORT AND SET UP POLICY SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) NCA 09-052, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A DONATION TO THE A.C.C.E.S.S. INDIAN CLUB OF HASKELL INDIAN NATIONS UNIVERSITY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO ITS MEMBERS SPONSOR: **KARA MEDINA ($10,000.00)**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) NCA 09-053, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CODE ANNOTATED TITLE 37, § 3-901 SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) NCA 09-065, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 - EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING PROGRAM SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON** ($458,763.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-2-0) NCA 09-067, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING TITLE 11, §4-301, D., ENTITLED "MINIMUM AND CONDITIONS" SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **K. MEDINA; S. JAYNE-DORNAN**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DAVID NICHOLS** AND **JAMES JENNINGS**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) NCA 09-068, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF HEALTH ADMINISTRATION TO PROVIDE A MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL ALERT DEVICE SYSTEM SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON**; CO-SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** ($30,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-1-0) NCA 09-069, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) STUDENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE JUNIOR NATIONAL YOUNG LEADERS CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON DC SPONSOR: **JAMES JENNINGS** ($1,291.50)

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (25-0-0) NCA 09-070, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES - 2009 FY BUDGET SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE** ($11,640.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **LENA WIND** WAS OUT OF AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-2-0) NCA 09-072, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR A BRONZE STATUE OF **ERNEST CHILDERS** TO BE DISPLAYED IN THE 45TH INFANTRY MUSEUM IN OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS**; CO-SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** ($48,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **TERRIE ANDERSON** AND **KARA MEDINA**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT AND COMBINE ALL THREE (23-2-0) TR 09-025, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY LOCATED IN TULSA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**, TR 09-026, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY LOCATED IN TULSA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER** AND TR 09-027, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY LOCATED IN TULSA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE **KEEPER JOHNSON** AND **JAMES JENNINGS**.

• MOTION FAILED TO SUSPEND RULES OF PROCEDURE AND MEET IN COMMITTEE-AS-A-WHOLE TO ADDRESS TR 09-037 FORENSIC AUDIT OF MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION FINANCES AND ASSETS DID NOT RECEIVE 2/3 VOTE OF MEMBERSHIP (12-13-0)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **LARRY CAHWEE, PETE BEAVER, EDDIE LAGRONE, DAVID NICHOLS, KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE ANDERSON, JAMES JENNINGS, CHERRAH QUIETT, STEVE BRUNER, SAM ALEXANDER, PAULA WILLITS, ROBERT HUFFT** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

Elections

Continued from A1

Qualifications for National Council Representatives include being one-fourth (1/4) or more Creek, by blood quantum, 18 years of age or older, an enrolled Creek citizen, residence within the jurisdiction for one full calendar year and a registered tribal voter for at least six months prior to filing for candidacy.

Filing fees for National Council seats are set at $200 and there will be a candidate fair on Mon., July 6, 2009 at the Mound Building from 10 a.m., to noon. Filing dates are July 20-22, 2009 and will be held from 9 a.m., to 4 p.m., at locations to be announced at a later date (no exceptions).

The seats open for re-election at this time are National Council Seats B, D and F. In order to file for a seat, potential candidates will need a tribal enrollment card, cashier's check or money order for the fee amount ($200), Muscogee (Creek) Nation voter registration card and verification of one year residence which must be two (2) of the following documents: Income tax return for the preceding year; homestead exemption or copy of property tax; copy of household deed or statement from Creek Nation Housing containing dates of residency; If renting, a notarized statement from the landlord containing dates of residency and landlord's address and phone number; utility bill in candidate's name.

NOTICE:

Title 19, Sec. 5-102 of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code Annotated states that immediately after filing for candidacy, an employee shall take leave without pay from employment with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, including a corporation, chartered community board and employees, agency or other entity which is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Immediately after an employee files for candidacy, the appropriate Muscogee (Creek) Nation Personnel Office shall place the employee in non-pay status until the first working day after the primary election, or in the event the employee is in a run-off, until the first official working day after the general election.

For additional information, please contact the MCN Election Board at (918) 732-7684 or toll free at 1-800-482-1979.

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Clark releases guide to OK Indian tribes

Media Release
Oklahoma City University College of Law

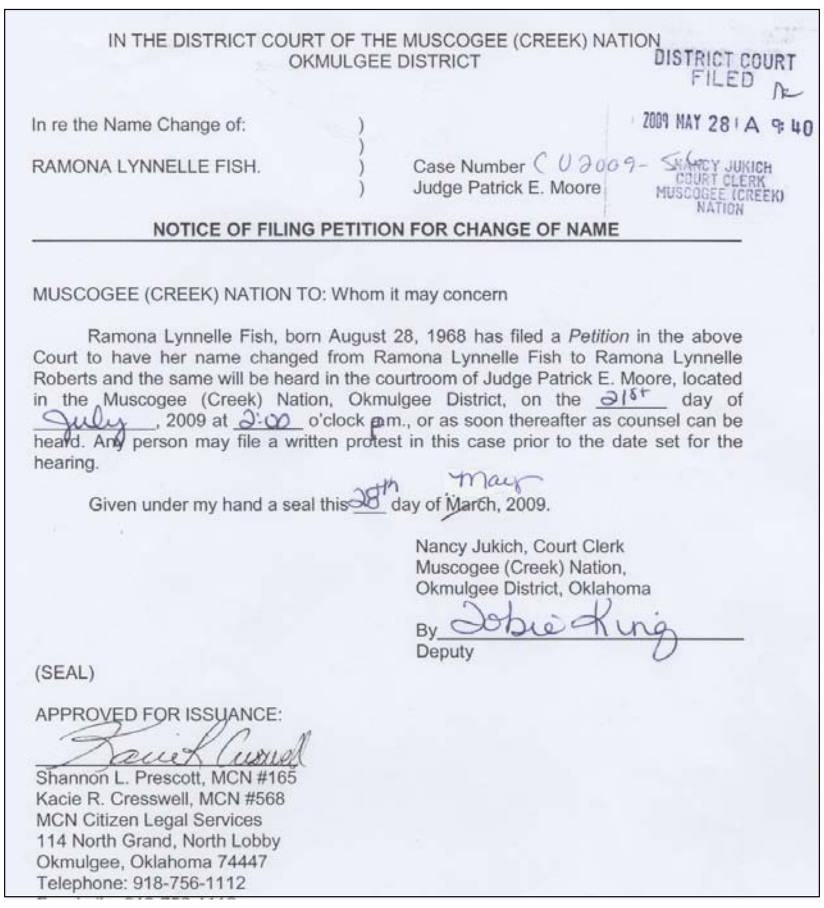
OKLAHOMA CITY — OCU Law Professor C. Blue Clark has authored a new guide to Oklahoma's Indian Tribes, published by the University of Oklahoma Press.

Clark holds the David Pendleton Chair in American Indian Studies and serves as Intertribal Governmental and Cultural Advisor for OCU Law's Native American Legal Resource Center, is a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and a former university administrator with extensive experience in Indian Country.

His new book, *Indian Tribes of Oklahoma: A Guide*, stands as an authoritative new reference "placing Oklahoma's Indians in their contemporary context as no other book has done," according to the University of Oklahoma Press web site. "Solidly grounded in scholarship and Native oral tradition, it provides general readers the unique story of each tribe, from the Alabama-Quassartes to the Yuchis."

Each entry in the book contains a complete statistical and narrative summary of the tribe, encompassing everything from origin tales and archaeological research to contemporary ceremonies and tribal businesses. The entries also include tribal web sites and suggested readings, along with photographs depicting prominent tribal personages, visitor sites, and accomplishments.

Legal Notices



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 MAY 28 A 9:40
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

In re the Name Change of:)
)
RAMONA LYNNELLE FISH.) Case Number CV2009-56
) Judge Patrick E. Moore

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

Ramona Lynnelle Fish, born August 28, 1968 has filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have her name changed from Ramona Lynnelle Fish to Ramona Lynnelle Roberts and the same will be heard in the courtroom of Judge Patrick E. Moore, located in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, on the 21st day of July, 2009 at 2:00 o'clock p.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

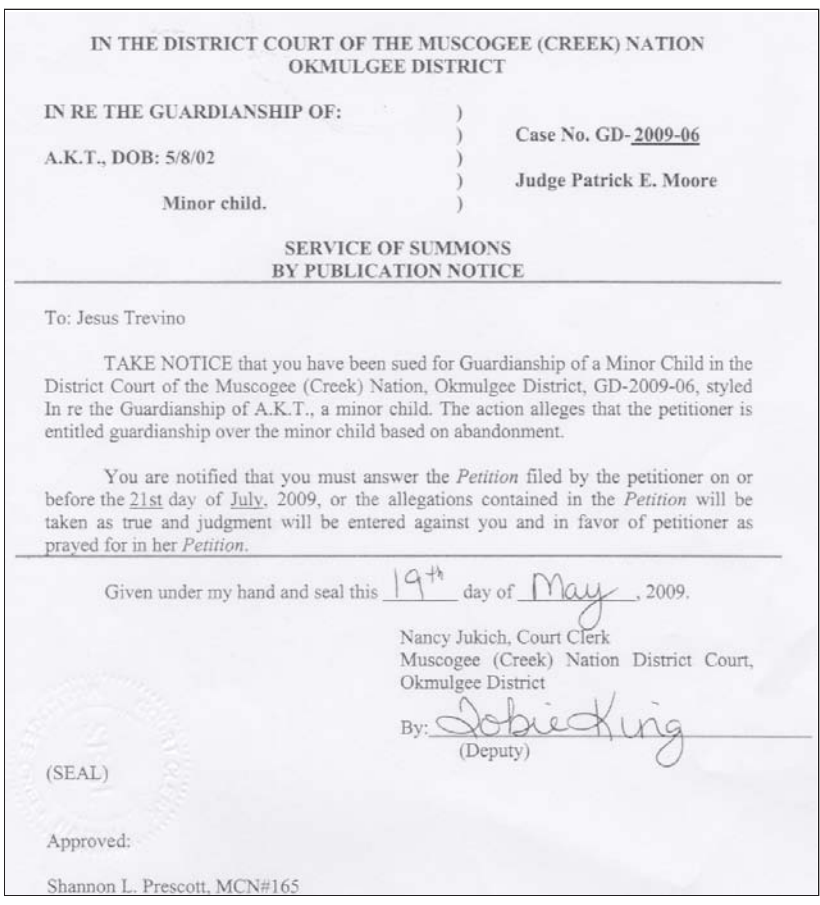
Given under my hand a seal this 28th day of ~~March~~ May, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation,
Okmulgee District, Oklahoma
By
Deputy

(SEAL)

APPROVED FOR ISSUANCE:

Shannon L. Prescott, MCN #165
Kacie R. Cresswell, MCN #568
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 North Grand, North Lobby
Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447
Telephone: 918-756-1112



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN RE THE GUARDIANSHIP OF:)
) Case No. GD-2009-06
A.K.T., DOB: 5/8/02)
) Judge Patrick E. Moore
Minor child.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Jesus Trevino

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for Guardianship of a Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD-2009-06, styled In re the Guardianship of A.K.T., a minor child. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner on or before the 21st day of July, 2009, or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

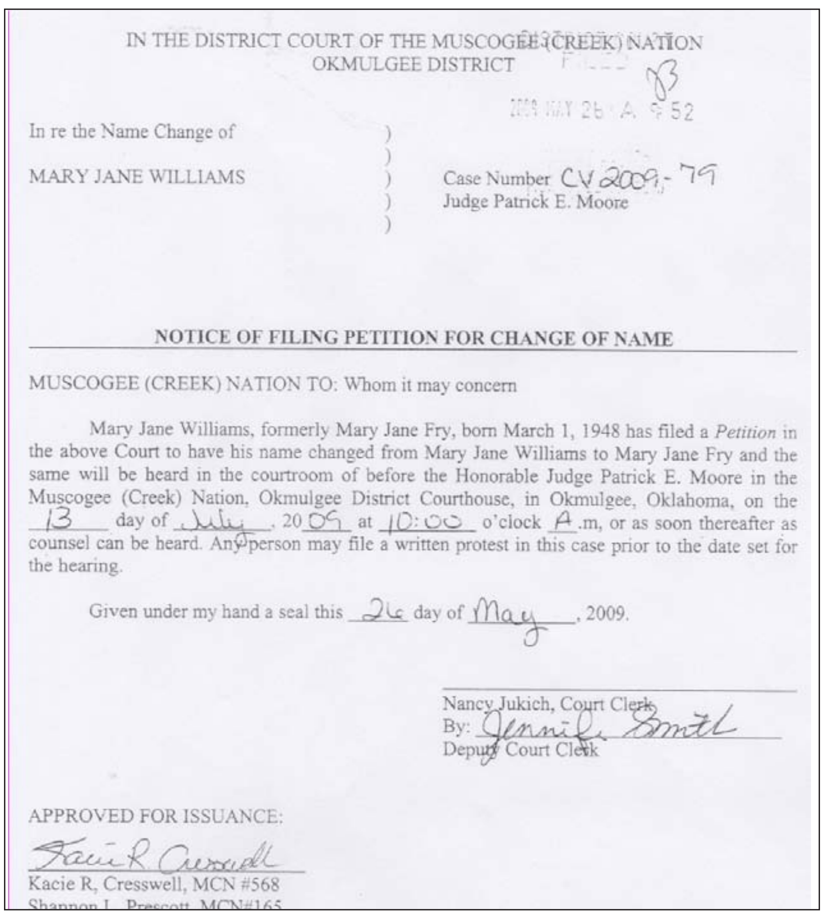
Given under my hand and seal this 19th day of May, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District
By:
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

Approved:

Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

2009 MAY 26 A 9:52

In re the Name Change of)
)
MARY JANE WILLIAMS) Case Number CV2009-79
) Judge Patrick E. Moore
)

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

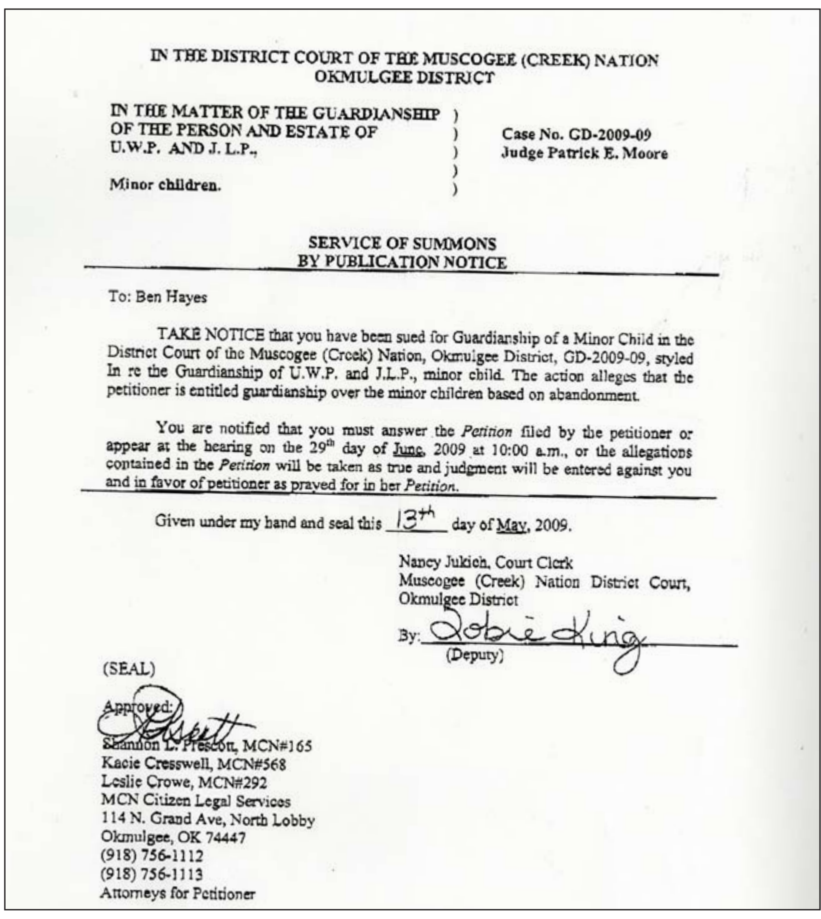
Mary Jane Williams, formerly Mary Jane Fry, born March 1, 1948 has filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have his name changed from Mary Jane Williams to Mary Jane Fry and the same will be heard in the courtroom of before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District Courthouse, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 13 day of July, 2009 at 10:00 o'clock A.m, or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 26 day of May, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
By:
Deputy Court Clerk

APPROVED FOR ISSUANCE:

Kacie R, Cresswell, MCN #568
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP)
OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE OF) Case No. GD-2009-09
U.W.P. AND J. L.P.,) Judge Patrick E. Moore
)
Minor children.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Ben Hayes

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for Guardianship of a Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD-2009-09, styled In re the Guardianship of U.W.P. and J.L.P., minor child. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled guardianship over the minor children based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear at the hearing on the 29th day of June, 2009 at 10:00 a.m., or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 13th day of May, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District
By:
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

Approved:
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kacie Cresswell, MCN#568
Leslie Crowe, MCN#292
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
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(918) 756-1113
Attorneys for Petitioner

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Local business goes "Upscale"

• Creek-owned hair salon opens in downtown Okmulgee

MNN/*Lee Longhorn*

Pictured above are owner Julie Winn along with stylists Wilma Tiger and Cindy Harjo who all helped to get the new business up and running for the grand opening held Thursday, May 28 in downtown Okmulgee.

UPSCALE
SALON & GIFTS

OKMULGEE – Muscogee (Creek) Nation business owner Julie Winn of Upscale Hair Salon and Gifts along with stylists Wilma Tiger and Cindy Harjo are prepped and ready to beautify the people of Okmulgee and Muscogee (Creek) Nation members.

Customers looking to get a new style in a "nice contemporary salon with a great atmosphere" will find just this, along with merchandise for sale including sunglasses, reading glasses, beads for bead work, purses, make-up, Avon retail, hair products and jewelry.

Along with salon services, the new business also offers manicures, pedicures and waxing. With the majority of their clientele being Creek citizens, the business thrives with it's rich atmosphere and convenient location just north of the Creek Council House Museum on the square in downtown Okmulgee, Okla.

MNN/*Lee Longhorn*

Bristow Casino celebrates successful first year

Reprinted with permission
Record Citizen

BRISTOW — It's been a year since the Muscogee (Creek) Nation opened the doors to the $3 million newly-rennovated version of the Bristow Casino. During the past 12 months, the success of the facility has made it a major entertainment center of the area and with 65 employees, it has become one of Bristow's largest employers. In addition, the casino has been a good neighbor donating to a wide variety of charitable causes.

The first year anniversary was celebrated with a wide variety of prizes from a Branson Getaway to a drawing for a bass boat and trailer and a Sea-Doo with trailer.

Casino Manager Travis Thompson says that the casino typically attracts 600 to 750 people for their major contests. With the local Tabouleh Fest celebration planned for the same weekend, both locals and travelers were able to participate in the exciting events happening in the Bristow community during the weekend.

Thompson says that the casino's Players Club has more than 6,000 members, several from out-of-state.

"About 65 percent of our customers are regulars," David Warrior, the assistant manger, noted. "We have customer service second to none. We have a hometown feel at our location."

The 10,000 square-foot facility may soon be expanding. Thompson said the Creek Nation will be making a decision on purchasing some adjacent land that would free up some floor space in the casino and also construction an addition to the current building that could add another 150 games to the facility.

The Bristow Casino is a "model facility and test site for equipment," Thompson noted.

"We have many amenities that are only found at larger casinos in Tulsa." The management philosophy includes changing out games on a regular basis to always have something new and fresh for customers.

"We want to be an entertainment venue for the area," Thompson said.

Photos courtesy of Record Citizen

The Creek Nation Casino located in Bristow recently celebrated its first successful year of operation and has become a tourist and local destination in the area.

Pictured above are David Warrior (left) and Travis Thompson (right) who have guided the Bristow Casino through its first successful year of operation since renovations were completed in early 2008. Thompson currently is serving as Acting General Manager of the Checotah Casino and Warrior is the Acting General Manager of the Bristow Casino. Travis plans to return full-time to the Bristow location in the near future.

Native Business Network to feature Director Sterlin Harjo

Media Release
Native Business Network

TULSA — The Native Business Network will host their monthly luncheon Thursday, June 11, 2009, from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., at the Tulsa Marriott Southern Hills located at 1902 East 71st Street in Tulsa. The featured speaker will be Muscogee (Creek)/Seminole Writer/Director Sterlin Harjo

Harjo is a native of Holdenville, Oklahoma. Interested from an early age in visual art and film, Harjo studied painting at the University of Oklahoma before writing his first feature-length script. Since then he has studied screen writing in the University of Oklahoma's Film and Video Studies Program and under the Sundance Institute's Feature Film Program. In 2004, Sundance Institute selected Harjo to receive an Annenberg Fellowship which provided extended support over a two-year period to facilitate the creation of his feature project. In 2006 Harjo was in the first class of United States Artists award recipients. He was also the youngest recipient.

Sterlin Harjo completed a year of development on his feature film script FOUR SHEETS TO THE WIND through the Sundance Institute's Filmmaker Labs where he worked under the guidance of industry veterans such as Robert Redford, Stanley Tucci, Joan Tewkesbury, Susan Shilliday, Frank Pierson, Walter Mosley, and Antonia Bird. Sterlin's project was one of 12 projects chosen from a pool of almost 2,500 based on the uniqueness of his voice, the originality of his story and the promise of this feature film offering something poignant to American cinema.

Harjo has directed three short films CROOKED LITTLE HEART, THEY'RE PLAYING HIS SONG, and GOOD NIGHT IRENE which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival 05 and has went on to play festivals around the world. The short film has garnered Harjo awards including Special Jury Recognition at the Aspen Shorts Festival and Best Oklahoma Film at the Dead Center film festival in Oklahoma City.

In January 2007 Harjo's first feature film, FOUR SHEETS TO THE WIND, premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. The film garnered warm responses from both audience's and critics. Tamara Podemski won a Special Jury Prize for outstanding performance for her role in the film as Miri Smallhill.

Harjo's new film BARKING WATER had a successful premiere at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival, and it recently screened as a part of the highly acclaimed New Directors/New Film series in New York City. BARKING WATER is currently making festival rounds.

For more information or to RSVP, call (918) 299-2778 or e-mail at nativebusiness@sbcglobal.net.

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MCN nurses recognized

• May 6-12 marked national nurses' appreciation day

by Sandra Peters
MCN Health Communications Coord.

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Division of Health engages a remarkable number of qualified nurses to work in its clinics and hospital. Nursing is both an art and a science. It is a profession of dedicated people diversified in their interests as well as drawn to the opportunities the science of medicine offers. National Nurses Week was May 6–12 is the permanent date that honor nurses and calls attention to the position nationwide.

The Muscogee (Creek) Division of Health nursing staff has acquired diversified roles such as educators, researchers, and nurse practitioners. They serve with passion the profession of nurturing with a strong commitment to patient safety. Nursing is where the art of healing and science meet, one a gift, the other a discipline of knowledge.

Pictured above are nurses from the MCN Eufaula Health Clinic (left to right): Karen Ellrick RN, Nursing Supervisor, Jeannie Arnold NP Holly Stafford RN, Joyce Quimby LPN., Melody Hampton LPN.

Pictured above are nurses from the MCN Koweta Health Clinic.

Estella Francis RN., at the Okmulgee Health Center, supervises ten nurses and reflects that, "We give great care to our patients!" Estella graduating from Seminole Jr. College as a Registered Nurse, and has been with the Okmulgee Health Center for eight (8) years. She stated that "Nursing is a calling. The Okmulgee Health Center is dedicated to client care and there isn't anything that we would not do for our patients." Okmulgee Health Center has the highest number of patients of any of our facilities. Estella stated that many times her nurses provide not only medical services, but much needed social assistance. There is a place for social services in the clinics and hospital.

Bradah Littlefield RN., Koweta Health System, who worked in the private sector for several years and who has been with us for three years finds working for the Nation "Awesome!" They celebrated National Nurses Week with a breakfast sponsored by a vendor, and lunch provided by Bert Robison, HSA at Koweta Health System. They discussed the importance of health care in the system and the difference nurses make in the field.

The Okemah Health Center celebrated the week with the theme, "Nurses Caring Today For A Brighter Tomorrow." Sheryl Sharber-Howell RN., Nursing Supervisor held a reception for her nurses on May 12th and included a week of fun on the computer, for her staff, with crossword puzzles, gift giving and a picnic cookout. She supervises 35 nurses and stated that the majority of them are veterans with 5-10 years experience in the system. She commented that, "Okemah has very little turn over with their health employees and can give consistent care for their patients." She stated that in rural health care, there are broader varieties of illnesses. Her major concern is that obesity is on the rise and is a major concern for both the young and the elderly. She believes persons are living longer and there must be more emphasis on preventive health care.

Pictured above are nurses from the MCN Okemah Health Clinic (left to right): Sheryl Sharber-Howell RN., Dean of Nursing, and Ashley Cummings LPN.

Gina Devore is the new Health System Administrator at Sapulpa Health Clinic and Kathryn McNeil RN., Nurse Supervisor heads a team of seven nurses who celebrated last week with gifts each day for their crew. Sapulpa is the most urban of our clinics serving the special needs of our people in the Tulsa area. Kathryn stated that Muscogee Nation is the first Tribe to transfer to the electronic health record keeping which helps the systems report trends and cites shortfalls in tracking health issues for patients. She claims that keeping up with the demand of new patients and providing the excellent care they need is essential to her clinic.

Each facility within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health is distinct and individual. The Eufaula Health Center organized the first Women's Wellness Summit in August of each year. 2009 will be the eighth year women will be educated on major health issues. The Clinic has a Men's Wellness Summit as well, which will be June 12 of this year. There is an emphasis on Pre-Natal care where the nurses can monitor the mother's health from conception through birth and continue screening their health during teen age years.

National Nurses Week ends on May 12, which is the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing. Student nurses, in required historical subjects, carefully examine the impact nursing will have on their life, as did Miss Nightingale. The history of Florence Nightingale travelling as far as Greece and Egypt in Thebes wrote in her diary: "God called me in morning and asked me would I do good for him alone without reputation." During the Crimean War, Florence Nightingale gained the nickname "The Lady with the Lamp." National Nurses Week was designated in 2003 to honor the nursing profession which had been supported and promoted by the American Nurses Association since 1896.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's 1857 poem "Santa Filomena" penned these four little lines to call attention to the gift of nursing:

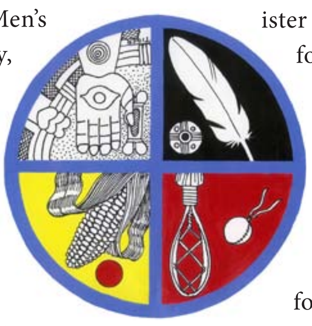
Lo! In that hour of misery
A lady with a lamp I see
Pass through the glimmering gloom,
And flit from room to room.

Pictured above are nurses from the MCN Okmulgee Health Clinic (left to right; back row): Estella Francis, Tsianina Wesley, Christina Patchin, Jennifer Zackery, and Andrea Winn. Front row: Nina Creason, Sherry O'Mara, and Jana Ross.

HEALTHNOTES

Eufaula Indian Health Center to host second annual Men's Health Fair

Media Release
Eufaula Indian Health Center



EUFAULA — The Eufaula Indian Health Center will be hosting their second annual "Men's Health Fair" on Friday, June 12. The event will be held at the Eufaula Indian Community Center, formerly the Reil Rock Skating Rink, 800 Birkes Rd., in Eufaula.

The health fair is scheduled to begin at 8 a.m, and conclude at 2 p.m. The event is open to the public but participants must register to attend. Registration forms are available at the Eufaula Indian Health Clinic. Included will be a free luncheon, T-shirts, health information and door prizes. For more information, please contact Lynda Saltsman at (918) 978-2547 ext. 248.

Have a healthy summer: tips

by Tina Jo Gordon, RN,CDE
Okemah Indian Health Center

OKEMAH — People with diabetes are at higher risk for foot injuries due to summer sports and other activities. During the warm weather, feet are more exposed and more vulnerable to irritation. If a person is barefoot while swimming or walking, injuries may occur. Also, this is the time that a person may wear more open toed shoes or sandals. As a result cracked, dry heels are one of the most common foot problems seen in the summertime.

If a person has peripheral neuropathy or numbness in their feet, the risk of injury is even greater. When walking barefoot on a hot surface such as pavement or sand, burns to the feet can occur. A cut to the foot or a foreign body such as a piece of glass or splinter may go unnoticed.

Remember to check feet daily. A mirror may be used to inspect the feet if a person cannot see the bottom of their foot. Avoid shoes such as flip-flops, which can be irritating to the skin between the toes. Blisters, calluses, and corns can also develop. Select shoes with good support and that do not allow the foot to slip when walking. And as always, wash and thoroughly dry feet daily. Apply a cream to heels to help prevent dry and cracked feet. Do not apply cream between the toes.

A few other summertime tips include:

- Wear sun screen to prevent sun burns
- Exercise in a cool place such as an air-conditioned gym, or early in the morning or late in the evening
- Keep hydrated. Prevent dehydration by drinking plenty of caffeine-free fluids such as water or sugar free drinks
- Use insect repellent to decrease the risk of bug bites while outside
- Store glucose meter and strips in a cool, dry place
- If you have been outside, check yourself for any ticks

MOST IMPORTANT: Keep blood sugar levels in control to help prevent complications. If you have any questions or concerns with your care, you may contact your local diabetes team.

Peak season for tick fever hits in June

Media Release
Okemah Indian Health Center

OKEMAH — Springtime, summertime, fun time, and tick time! Those pesky critters that like to feed on blood are considered repulsive by some and just an annoyance by others. I don't know of anyone that lives in our beautiful Ozark area that hasn't experienced having to remove at least one tick trying to get a meal from them. Unfortunately, ticks can be more than just an annoyance; they can spread disease. Most people are familiar with Lyme disease, spread by the deer tick. Another tick-borne disease seen in our area is Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (RMSF). Seasonal outbreaks of RMSF occur in April through September, with a peak incidence in May and June. The number of cases reported to the State Department of Health so far this year has more than doubled over what was reported last year.

TO BE CONTINUED IN
JULY MNN PAGE A6

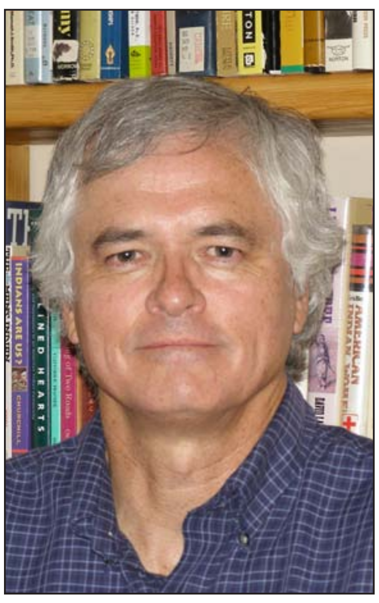
Creek citizen aids Native American healthcare

Media Release
Submitted by Jeff King

I am a tribally-enrolled member , Sweet Potato Clan, New Tulsa tribal township. I am the son of Anna Jacobs King, who now lives in Okmulgee, nephew of Irene Cleghorn-deceased (tribal council member for 13 years out of Tulsa). The Jacobs family home is located outside of Holdenville near the New Tulsa stompgrounds. Jack Jacobs was my uncle. He still holds records at OU for football achievements-set in the 1940's!

I attended the University of Oklahoma for my undergraduate degree in psychology and then received my Masters and PhD from Pennsylvania State University.

I specialized in cultural psychology and more specifically, American Indian mental health. My internship was through the University of Colorado Health Sciences where my major rotation was with the Denver Indian community through Denver Indian Health and Family Services. In Denver, I worked for 13 years as the director of Native American Counseling-a non-profit agency that served the mental health needs of Denver urban Indians. Subsequently, I moved to Taos where I worked as a psychologist for IHS serving the Taos and Picuris Pueblos.



Dr. Jeff King

After two years, I accepted a faculty position at Western Washington University where I am the Director for the Center of Cross-Cultural Research and an Associate Professor. I am also president of the First Nations Behavioral Health Association-a national association composed of Native behavioral health practitioners. I am currently specializing in addressing the disparities in behavioral health care for indigenous populations, with specific interests in traditional ways of healing for behavioral health issues and cultural competence.

Social Services offering summer energy assistance beginning June 15, 2009

Media Release
MCN Social Services Dept.

OKMULGEE — The Social Services Department offers two programs in the summer for cooling assistance. New participants may apply beginning June 15, 2009. We will continue to take applications through September 30, 2009, or until the funds are exhausted.

LIHEAP (Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program) is available for low-income families residing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation service boundaries. Tribal Energy is available for elders (55 and older) or those receiving disability benefits through the Social Security Administration.

To apply for services, please choose one of the following options:

Applicants may choose to apply:

1) IN PERSON - No appointment is necessary and clients will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis. Office hours are 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. We are located at 2971 N. Wood Drive, just north of the MCN Housing Building.

2) BY MAIL – Please mail all documents to: MCN Social Services, Attn: LIHEAP or Tribal Energy, PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Please do not mail your cards or original documents.

3) BY FAX – Please fax all documents to 918-759-9988 and include a cover sheet addressed to LIHEAP or Tribal Energy.

4) IN YOUR COMMUNITY – Please bring all your documents to the field site. A Social Services Caseworker is available every month between 9:30 and 11 a.m., according to the schedule at the bottom of this page.

Those who wish to apply should provide:

1) Tribal cards and Social Security cards for everyone in the household

2) Electric bill

3) Copies of all income sources

4) Phone number (in case we need to contact you)

5) Authorization for Social Services to sign the application (if mailing or faxing)

6) Non-Duplication statement: Statement detailing any assistance received in the past 12 months from any federal, state, tribe, community, and/or church agency or the like with utilities, and/or deposits.

7) Additional documentation may be required

Applicants should keep paying their bill until they receive an approval letter. Please allow at least 45 days for processing.

Please contact Social Services at 918-759-2334 if you need additional information. The toll-free number is 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7995.

COMMUNITY NEWS & ACTIVITIES

OIC to host Summer Enrichment Program

OKMULGEE — Okmulgee Indian Community invites you to join our Summer Enrichment Program beginning Monday, June 8, 2009. Ages 6-12 are welcome!

Please pick up an application at the OIC building or contact Ester Gee for more information at (918) 759-8553 or (918) 758-0970.

Wetumka to host benefit Indian Taco sale

WETUMKA — Wetumka Indian Community is having an Indian Taco Fund raiser for Sanah Puttkamer on Saturday, June 6, 2009 from 11 a.m., to 2 p.m.

Puttkamer was injured in an automobile accident and her mother Kathy Puttkamer was killed in the accident. Kathy Puttkamer was the Secretary/Treasurer for the Community Center for three and a half years. Sanah is currently in the Children's Hospital in Oklahoma City. All proceeds will benefit Sanah's medical bills.

Weleetka hosts benefit Indian Taco sale

WELEETKA — Weleetka Indian Community will host an Indian Taco Sale at the community center located at 603 N. Chickasaw in Weleetka, Okla. All proceeds will go to the Little Olympics team. Cost is $5 for a taco and a drink.

Intertribal Indian Club to host Pow-wow of Champions

The Intertribal Indian Club of Tulsa will host the 32nd Annual Powwow of Champions August 21-23, 2009 at the new location at the Historic Perryman Ranch, located between 111th and 121st St., on Elwood Ave., in Tulsa.

Admission will be $5 per person (5 years and under will be free) or family passes may be purchased for $4 per person. The event includes Tulsa's largest Native American arts and crafts exhibition which features a large selection of traditional and contemporary jewelry, artwork, paintings, pottery, clothing, quality hand-crafted items, books, music and more. Traditional foods will also be available.

Prize money will be awarded in all dance divisions and Jr., and Sr. contestants must make two out of four Grand Entries and two Exhibition Dances plus their Contest. Contest registration will open at 6 p.m., August 21 and again at 11 a.m., August 22.

For vendor contract or more information, call (918) 321-3460 or (918) 838-8276 or e-mail: arts-n-crafts@iicot.org.

Native American Warriors' Society hosts pool tournament

TULSA—The Native American Warriors' Society will host a pool tournament that will benefit currently active Native American service men and women in the form of care packages to be sent to Iraq and Afghanistan.

The pool tournament will be held June 12-13 at Magoo's in Tulsa. Registration will begin at 6:30 p.m., on Friday, June 12 followed by play beginning at 7 p.m., and on Saturday at 1 p.m. Magoo's management will run the tournament which will feature a double-elimination format.

Monetary and supply donations (food, practical and personal hygiene items) for care packages will be accepted and appreciated at the event. For more information and a complete list of items that may be donated, please contact Janene Alford at (918) 587-1109 or (918) 344-1270.

MCN Social Services and Food Distribution Field Schedule

Coweta	Community Center 8:30 - 11 a.m.	2nd Tuesday of the Month
Glenpool	Community Center 9:00 - 10 a.m.	2nd Wednesday of the Month
Bristow	Community Center 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.	2nd Thursday of the Month
Eufaula	Community Center 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.	3rd Tuesday of the Month
Sapulpa	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	3rd Wednesday of the Month
Checotah	Community Center 9:00 - 11 a.m.	3rd Thursday of the Month
Weleetka	Community Center 9:00 - 10 a.m.	4th Tuesday of the Month
Okemah	Community Center 9:00 - 10 a.m.	4th Wednesday of the Month
Holdenville	Community Center 9:00 - 11 a.m.	4th Thursday of the Month

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CRD to host IRS tax workshop July 7-8, 2009

Media Release
Community Research and Development

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Research and Development Department will host a free basic Employment Tax Training for Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chartered Indian Communities that will be conducted by IRS Office of Indian Tribal Governments.

Sessions will be held Tuesday, July 7, 2009 from 8-4:30 p.m., and Wednesday July 8, 2009 8-2 p.m., at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Authority, second floor conference room, located at 2951 N. Wood Dr., in Okmulgee.

The two-day training will be an Employment Tax Workshop and registration is first come, first served. Please respond by Friday, June 26, 2009 as there is a maximum allowance of 25 attendees per class.

Persons who may prepare employment tax Forms 941, W-2, and 1099-MISC for Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chartered Indian Communities in the near future are welcome to attend. There will be no charge for the class, however, attendees must pay for their own travel, lodging and food expenses (a free continental breakfast and snack on will be provided on the first day courtesy of Muscogee (Creek) Nation). Participants are asked to bring any IRS notices or correspondence from IRS or Social Security, a handheld calculator, pen or pencil and note pad.

Topics of discussion will include: How to avoid penalties and interest; How to handle travel expenses; Independent contractors versus employees; Calculating employment tax liabilities; Employment tax deposit schedule; End of year reconciliation of Form 941s and W-2s; Preparation and filing of Form 941, Form 945, Form W-2 and Form 1099-misc; Guest speakers from IRS Collection Office, Social Security, and Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Note: Time is set aside on the second day, in the afternoon, to discuss any issues or problems you may have with the IRS or Social Security.

For additional information, please call (405) 297-4575 or (405) 297-4657, fax (405) 297-4495 or e-mail aletha.j.bolt@irs.gov or william.r.linke@irs.gov.

FAMILY MEMBERS OF MUSCOGEE (CREEK) SOLDIERS KILLED IN ACTION

It is requested that family members of Muscogee (Creek) soldiers Killed In Action during World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam kindly contact the Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO) to provide the following:

- **Name of Muscogee (Creek) Soldier**
- **Verification of Citizenship**
- **Killed In Action Verification**
- **Birth Date**
- **Service Branch**
- **Killed In Action Date**

The Requested purpose of this information is to publicly honor and recognize our tribal soldiers in the Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO) Memorial Courtyard.

Please contact:
Shawn Taryole • (918) 732-7745 • staryole@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
Ken Davis • (918) 732-7739 • kendavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Assistance Program

NEW **START DATE FOR THE SCHOOL CLOTHING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IS JUNE 1, 2009!!**

WHO: The School Clothing Assistance Program is to assist Creek students who are enrolled as a Muscogee Creek Citizen. Students must be 3 years old and enrolled in any Head-Start or private school, at least 4 years old and enrolled in a public or private school, no higher than the 12th grade. Home schooled children ages 5 to 18 are also eligible.

WHAT: A grant of $200.00 to purchase clothing items and/or shoes.

WHEN: **ATTENTION! New Start Date!!** Applications will be available beginning June 1, 2009 and will end October 2, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

WHERE: Applications will be available at the School Clothing Program office, MCN Indian Community Centers and the MCN Child Development Centers.
You can also call 918-756-2024 or 800-482-1979 to request an application be mailed or faxed to you!

For questions or additional information, contact the
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
School Clothing Program
at 918-756-2024 or 800-482-1979

The School Clothing Program Office is located behind the Social Services Building at 2971 N. Wood Drive, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

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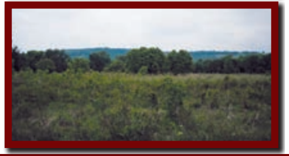

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Program Spotlight: Mvskoke Language Public School Program

by Lee Longhorn
MNN Intern

OKMULGEE — "To preserve, maintain and assure continued vitality of the Mvskoke Creek language…and to develop options and opportunities to ensure survival of the Mvskoke Creek language in future generations of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation."

The language program of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation continues to keep the words of their mission statement true to their meaning.

The 2008-2009 academic school year held the privilege of having the Muscogee (Creek) language being taught in the communities of Holdenville, Dustin, Dewar, Wilson and Glenpool.

The language classes are counted as an elective credit and offered to every enrolled student in the school.

Reflecting back on the school year and their teaching experiences, the language instructors offer stories of joy and remorse during their tenure at each school.

Like with any other job, sometimes the work involved can be overwhelming. Phillip Harjo, Dustin and Ryal elementary school language instructor, recalls non-Creek students' attitude in learning the language. "They [the students] would ask, why are we in here. We don't have to learn it."

Like with every teaching experience, the joys of teaching overcome the hardship of teaching. Knowing the Creek language instructors have made a difference is by the student's reflection of their new understanding of the language.

Minnie Proctor, Wilson and Dewar Public schools Creek language instructor, recollects students using the language outside the classroom, especially in social settings. "When they see you somewhere else, they'll speak Creek to you… you know they've learned something."

MNN/*Lee Longhorn*

Pictured above Mvskoke Language instructors in attendance at the Native Languages Summit at Bacone College in Muskogee, Okla., May 29-30.

Gracine Hicks, Thomas Middle School and Holdenville High School Creek language instructor, discusses the joy of non-Creek students enjoying the language.

"When you teach a non-Indian and they'll wanna know more. Not just the lesson you have but they wanna go on and learn different things."

Overall, the students at each of the schools enjoyed learning the language. Hicks recalls "We had lessons with only five words and they [the students] would want to do another lesson with more words."

Student attendance was always high in the Creek classes. Hicks says "They wouldn't wanna miss Creek class. They might not be there that morning, but they always came to Creek class."

Not only do students learn the language, lessons about Creek culture are also applied. Hands-on activities are used. Material and items brought into the classroom include Creek ballsticks, turtle shell and metal can leggings, and traditional stomp dance and creek hymn music.

Not only did learning the language evoke a new understanding and comprehension of the language to a younger generation, it also brought a sense of pride.

Harjo recalls how students at Ryal Elementary would begin class with a stomp dance. Hicks also had similar instances when her class would listen to stomp dance music. "Some of them would ask me, can I dance?"

As the school year ended and spring turned to summer, the language staff looked ahead to the future.

Both students and staff are looking forward to the upcoming year. "One high school boy told me, if you come back, I'll take the Creek class again. If you're not back, I won't take the class," Hicks said.

As the success of the language program in Oklahoma public schools grows, small problems inhibit the program from reaching more schools such as the number of teachers and funding for the teachers.

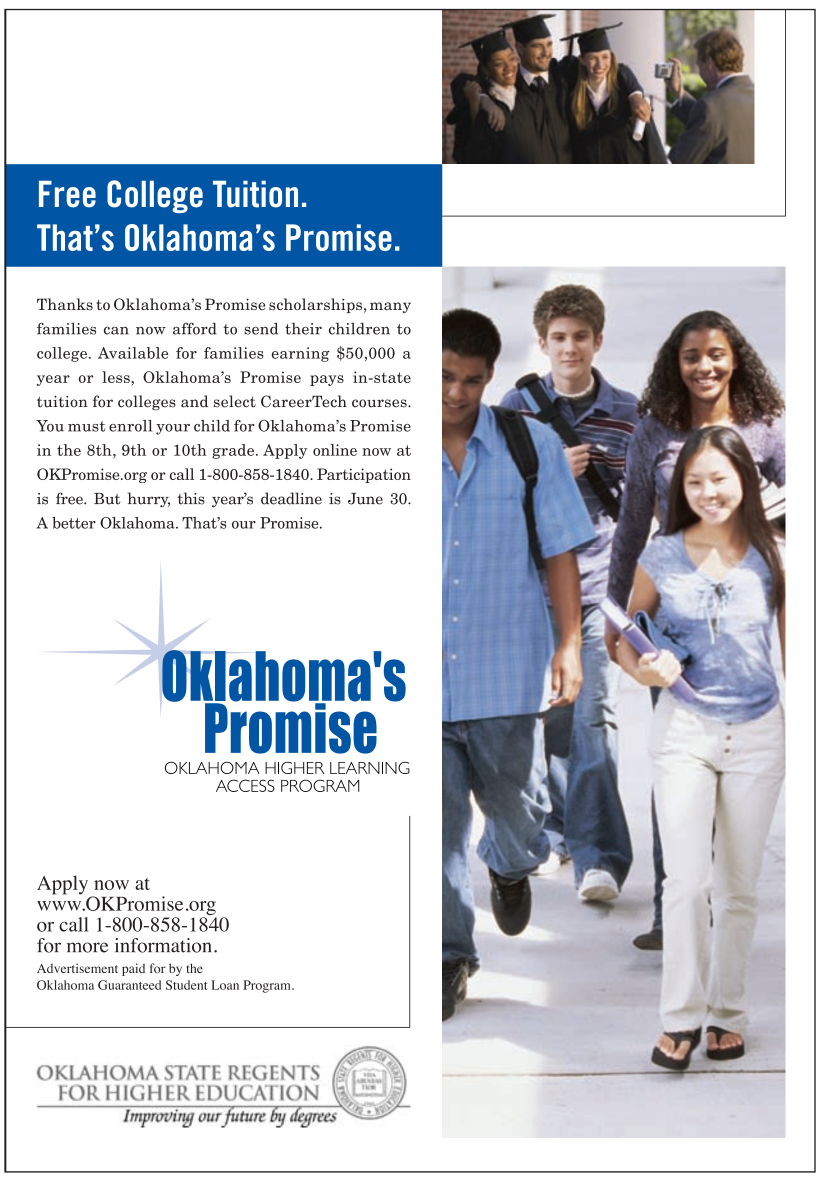
As continued desires to save American Indian languages are fought, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is battling effortlessly to continue the language, making way for a new generation of Mvskoke speakers, the youth of the tribe.

Chilocco Reunion set for June 11-14, 2009

Media Release
Chilocco Reunion Committee

CATOOSA — The 2009 Chilocco Reunion is taking place at the Cherokee Casino and Resort Conference Center from June 11-14, 2009.

Activities include Honoring the Golden Class of 1959, Chilocco Golf Classic Scramble, Kickoff with a Reception, Intertribal Fashion Show, Thunderbird Powwow (everyone is welcome to attend), general alumni activities, prize drawings (tickets for sale), Chilocco memorabilia on sale and an honoring of our veterans. A raffle will be held during the banquet. The raffle prizes are handmade Seminole clothing items made and donated by the Seminole Tribe of Florida. For more information about the raffle contact Ken Ellis at (918) 752-0620 or Pauletta Johnson at (918) 366-6158. For more information about the reunion contact Jim Baker at (405) 377-6826 or Dixon Dyer at (918) 246 - 0820.



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Creek Author to tour ancestral lands

SPOTLIGHT - B5

Sterling Basketball taken by storm

SPORTS - B7

FEATURES

"Chebon's Warriors" battle

• Relay for Life team raises $3,900 to fight cancer

In Memory of Wilbur Chebon Gouge

Photo courtesy of Rita Williams

Pictured above are "Chebon's Warriors" who participated in a local Relay for Life event held in Okmulgee, Okla. The team was put together in memory of Muscogee citizen, tribal servant and friend Wilbur 'Chebon' Gouge.

FIGHTING BACK

OKMULGEE – The family and friends of Wilbur Chebon Gouge participated in the Relay For Life event held at Covelle Hall on Friday, May 1, 2009. Initially the relay was to be held in downtown Okmulgee around the Council House Square but due to the rain, plans changed.

Relay for Life participants called "Chebon's Warriors" raised around $3,900 that will be used in the fight against cancer.

Every group that participated decorated their areas with photos of their loved ones who lost their life to cancer and had special T-shirts made in their memory. They also sold different items to continue raising money, had face-painting for the children and entertainment for everyone.

Two special moments of the evening were the survivors walk and lighting of the luminaries. The luminaries were lit at 10 p.m., in memory of those who lost their lives to cancer. Chebon had twelve.

Next year the family and friends hope to get started earlier and invite you to join us in this fight. We will keep you posted.

MCN/*Rita Williams*

Society aims to share culture

• Mvskoke Bowshooters Society teaches ancient Creek tradition

by Vern Courtright
Mvskoke Bowshooters Society

OKMULGEE — There was a time many long years and places ago, when no Mvskoke man could survive without his bow and arrows and the ability to use them well. Along with crops we raised ourselves, we survived for centuries on the bounty given to us by the Creator.

Sadly, those times are gone forever and will never return. However, the making and use of those same bows has survived but is now hanging, by a few thin strands.

Mike Berryhill, a full-blood Mvskoke, who lives near Schulter, could be THE last Creek bowmaker. and he's worried about it. He and a few others have been attempting to revive these ancient skills by holding "Cornstalk Shoots" each month at the tribal complex in Okmulgee with more and more success.

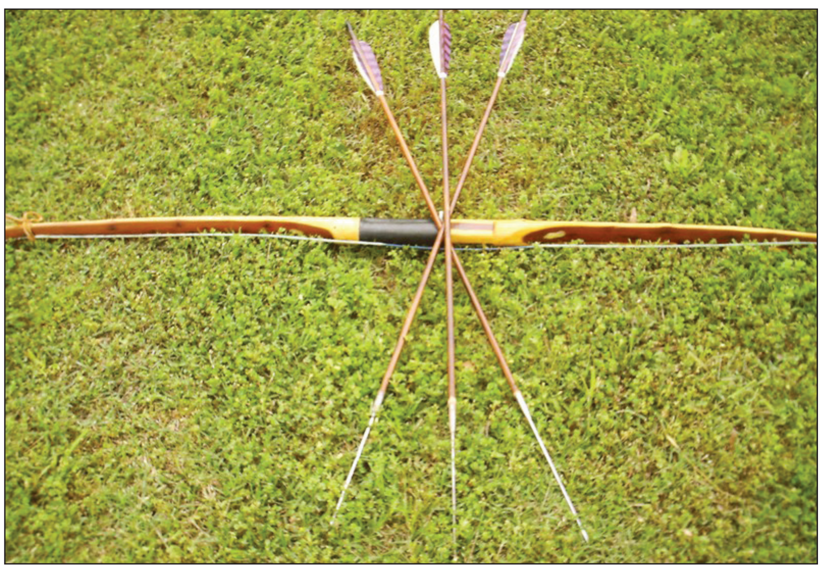


Photo courtesy of Judge Patrick E. Moore

Pictured above are a handmade bow and arrows used during the Mvskoke Bowshooters' Society's monthly cornstalk shoots.

With their hand-made bows and specialized "cornstalk arrows" they shoot at a target of stacked cornstalks approximately two feet by four feet tall, from a distance of 80 or 100 yards (the length of a modern day football field) attempting to drive their arrows as far as possible through the target. As many as 15 to 20 Creek archers will show up on the first Saturday of each month, around noon (Indian time) to socialize, shoot their home-made bows and share in a camaraderie that has existed for generations.

Their efforts are often "blessed" in an ancient tradition by Helishaya (Medicine Man) Amos Mcnac, with medicine and a prayer for themselves and their bows.

Cherokees from the Tahlequah area, who have been holding their own cornstalk shoots, for years, have joined the festivities and bring their own style and good humor to the occasion. In the near future, there is a monumental "Shoot of the Nations" planned where all the Oklahoma tribes will be invited to attend and compete, much as stories have been told in the past.

If there is enough interest, the Mvskoke Bowshooters Society proposes to host a series of bow-making workshops, where those interested will be given the opportunity, proper tools and instruction provided by Mr. Mike Berryhill, to craft their own bows of native Bois D'Arc (Osage Orange) wood, cut on Mvskoke land and provided free of charge.

If you're someone who wants to learn and contribute to the continuation of this ancient art and skill, please call Vern Courtwright at (918) 527-5895 or e-mail: nativeheart@valornet.com.

Office of Child Care to host public hearing

Media Release
MCN Office of Childcare

OKMULGEE — A public hearing is scheduled for the Child Care Development Fund that is administered by the Office of Child Care.

The hearing will begin at 6 p.m., on June 23 at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care at the Child Development Center on the tribal complex located at U.S. Highway 75 and Loop 56.

The Child Development Fund is a program that provides financial assistance for income-eligible tribal citizens toward their monthly child care obligations.

For more information, please contact the MCN Office of Child Care at (918) 732 - 7680.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care will host a public hearing June 23, 2009 where the Child Care Development Fund will be discussed.

Child and Adult Food Care Program available

Public Service Announcement
MCN Office of Child Care

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Childcare is announcing its participation in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).

Participating locations include Tulsa, Sapulpa, Eufaula, Holdenville and Okemah Muscogee (Creek) Nation Child Development Centers.

All participants in attendance are served meals at no extra charge to the parents and without regard to race, color, sex, national origin, age or disability. In accordance with United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) policy, this/these institutions is/are prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, nationality, sex, age or disability.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to: USDA Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, D.C., 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD).

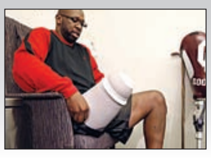
For more information, please contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care at (918) 732-7680.

CULTURE B2
SNAG Stickball

LIVING B3
Grave Creek Church gets face lift

LIFESTYLES B4
April Oskee Barnett

SPOTLIGHT B5
Creek citizens remember Wayman Tisdale



OBITUARIES B6
Mvskoke Veteran Johnny Asbury

AD B8
Indian Art Festival

CULTURAL

Haskell takes top honors at second annual stickball tournament

Photos courtesy of Josh Clough

The stickball team from Haskell Indian Nations University took top honors at the second annual stickball tournament hosted by the University of Oklahoma's S.N.A.G. Fraternity in Norman, Okla.

by Josh Clough
MNN Contributor

NORMAN — The Society of Native American Gentlemen (S.N.A.G.), a fraternity at the University of Oklahoma made up largely of Indian students, held its second annual stickball tournament April 18-19 at the campus' intramural fields. Co-sponsored by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Norman Arts Council, the tournament highlighted a series of events and exhibits in the Norman area that demonstrated the importance of stickball to the art and material culture of Southeastern tribes. Eight teams competed in the double-elimination tournament, up from four the previous year: Tennessee, Fish Pond, OU, OSU, Haskell, Chickasaw, Mississippi Choctaw and Broken Bow/Ardmore. As in 2008, the Haskell team dominated opponents on its way to winning its second straight championship. Tennessee placed second, while Fish Pond finished third.

Monte Randall, a member of S.N.A.G. and a Muscogee (Creek) citizen, explained that the tournament was started to help raise awareness of Southeastern Indians in Oklahoma and to perpetuate the traditional game of stickball among these tribes.

"Many people think that the only Indians in Oklahoma are those that dance at powwows," said Randall. "We wanted to show that there are other tribes here that have different traditions, such as the ceremonial game of stickball."

While rules and the structure of the game had to be standardized to accommodate the diverse tribal backgrounds of the players and to ensure games finished in a timely manner, the mere sight of stickball games being played on the campus of a public university in 2009 bodes well for the future of "the little brother of war."

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MUSEUM NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Council House Museum selected as Museum on Main Street host site

Media Release
Creek Council House Museum

OKMULGEE — The Creek Council House Museum in partnership with Okmulgee Main Street, the Okmulgee County Multi-Cultural Heritage Association and the surrounding community has been chosen by the Oklahoma Humanities Council to host Journey Stories as part of the Museum on Main Street Project—a national/state/local partnership to bring exhibitions and programs to rural cultural organizations. The exhibition will tour six communities in Oklahoma from June 2009 through April 2010 and appear for six weeks in each location.

Journey Stories is an exhibit fabricated by the Smithsonian Institution that examines the human drive for freedom. The story is diverse and focuses on immigrants coming in search of promise in a new country; stories of individuals and families relocating in search of fortune, their own homestead, or employment; the harrowing journeys of Africans and Native Americans forced to move; and, of course, fun and frolic on the open road.

Journey Stories will use engaging images with audio and artifacts to tell the individual stories that illustrate the critical roles travel and movement have played in building our diverse American society. Communities are encouraged to tell their own special journey story through exhibits and other public programming thus customizing the national theme to Oklahoma's unique history.

"We are thrilled to bring the Smithsonian to Oklahoma," said Ann Thompson, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Humanities Council. "With this special tour, we are pleased to be working with the Creek Council House Museum, Okmulgee Main Street and the Okmulgee County Multi-Cultural Heritage Association to help the community come together to discover and celebrate its heritage.

Journey Stories is part of Museum on Main Street, a unique collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES), state humanities councils across the nation, and local host institutions. To learn more about Journey Stories and other Museum on Main Street Exhibitions, visit www.museumonmainstreet.org.

Support for Museum on Main Street has been provided by the United States Congress, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, and the Hearst Foundation.

SITES connects millions of Americans of Americans with their shared cultural heritage through a wide range of art, science and history exhibitions. The Oklahoma Humanities Council delivers educational resources and cultural programming to communities across the state. The Creek Council House Museum serves the local community by collecting, preserving and interpreting the cultures of the Native American peoples with emphasis on the cultures represented by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. To learn more, visit www.sites.si.edu, www.okhumanitiescouncil.org or call the Creek Council House Museum at 918-756-2324.

Indian Art Festival to be featured at Creek Festival June 16-20, 2009

Media Release
Creek Council House Museum

OKMULGEE — The 2009 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will present the Council House Indian Art Festival at the museum from June 16 – 20. There will be a juried art competition with two categories: paintings/graphics and photography, Native American vendors set up on the lawn selling their artwork, a kid's art area and of course the ever popular parade!

Museum curator Ted Isham said, "It will be an exciting art show this year. For the first time we will have a photography category. We have also increased the number of prizes and the amount of prize money that will be awarded with one talented artist receiving the $1,000 Best of Show Award." The awards ceremony will be held at 4 p.m.

This year the parade will start at 10 a.m., not at noon as it has in previous years. Starting earlier will help avoid the afternoon heat and be much easier on the parade entrants and the elders who love to see the parade.

Then at 2 p.m., there will be a genealogy workshop presented by Bill Welge from the Oklahoma History Center. If you want to find out how to trace your family tree don't miss this chance!

For further information, please contact the museum at 918-756-2324.

American Indian Learners' Conference set for June 13, 2009 in Edmond

Media Release
University of Central Oklahoma

EDMOND — The University of Central Oklahoma will be hosting a American Indian Learners Conference Saturday, June 13, 2009. This one-day conference will address the issues of American Indian students and their relationship with their school.

Participants will have the oppurtunity to explore how these relationships affect the facilitation of learning for these students. The participants will be also able to take keys ways of integrating the American Indian culture into their subjects in the classroom using art and language integration.

By utilizing handouts and materials lists to generate new ideas and develop creative learning atmospheres at various levels in the curriculum for all students, instructors will be making a connection to the American Indian learner's culture.

Workshop presenters will include Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Preservation Manager Joyce Bear, Trina Jones, Eric Hardison, Paul King, G. Patrick Riley, Janie Umsted and Frances Williams for Art and PASS Skills.

Writing and PASS Skills instructors will be Laura Marshall Clark, Carol Hamilton, Muscogee citizen Valerie LittleCreek, Lynn Munoz, Juanita Pahdopony-Mithlo who will also be the keynote speaker.

Make and Take Sessions will include presenters: Corn Husk dolls by Laura Stewart, Kiowa Hide Painting by Jame Lyn Eskeew, Muscogee Pottery by Scott Roberts and Choctaw Basketweaving by Victor Wildcat.

The conference will take place at the University of Central Oklahoma Campus, located at 100 North University Drive, Nigh University Center, 3rd floor in Edmond.

For more information contact the Conference and Event center at (405) 974-2244.

Mvskoke Country: *“Return to Your Roots” symposium a step in the right direction*

Submitted by James Treat
University of Illinois

URBANA, Ill., — Three years ago, the National Congress of American Indians adopted a resolution “Supporting a National Mandatory Program to Reduce Climate Change Pollution and Promote Renewable Energy.”

Global warming is already affecting native communities in Alaska, and rising temperatures will bring drought to many in the central and western United States. Pollution-related damage to “weather, food sources, and local landscapes undermine the social identity and cultural survival of American Indians and Alaska Natives,” and “create new challenges for community health systems, rural infrastructure and economies.”

Acknowledging our dependence on the natural world, NCAI members urged the federal government to act while we still have time to prevent “irreversible harm to public health, the economy and the environment.” The resolution was approved by the General Assembly on June 21, 2006, the summer solstice and a day when native people across North America were praying for the earth.

Unfortunately, this important statement was never reported in the mainstream press—or even the national native press, for that matter.

Fortunately, there are some in Mvskoke country who are rising to the challenges of climate change.

One of the most encouraging signs of this movement is the recent “Return to Your Roots” symposium held at the Mound Building on March 20-21, the spring equinox. More than a dozen presenters from native communities near and far discussed traditional foods, community gardening, youth projects, childhood memories, family farming, tribal agriculture, nutritional cooking, and much more.

This landmark event was cosponsored by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and all three branches of tribal government were represented among those who addressed the audience.

The symposium was organized by the Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative (MFSI), which has an office in downtown Okmulgee. According to their mission statement, MFSI is “dedicated to enabling the Mvskoke people and their neighbors to provide for their food and health needs, now and in the future, through sustainable agriculture, economic development, community involvement, cultural and educational programs.” You can get a free subscription to their monthly newsletter by e-mailing: mvskokefood@gmail.com or calling (918) 756-5915.

Although I wasn’t able to attend, just hearing about the MFSI symposium makes me hungry and reminds me of my favorite Mvskoke expression: “Hompaks ce!”

A few years back, during a break from the busyness of teaching, I wrote a series of book reviews on Mvskoke history and culture for the *Muscogee Nation News*.

Now that I’m due for another sabbatical, I’ll be contributing a column on current issues affecting Mvskoke people. I’m especially concerned about what is happening to our home, the earth, and I hope you are too.

My family’s allotments were in the Oktaha area, south of Muskogee. I was born in Anadarko and taught for five years at OU in Norman. I’ve also lived several other places across this great land, from the West Coast to east central Illinois, where I now work.

I’ve learned that every spot on this planet is beautiful in its own way—and that all are threatened by the toxic substances accumulating in our atmosphere.

I welcome your comments on anything I write, as well as your suggestions for things I should be writing about. You can reach me by e-mail at: treaty@illinois.edu or on the web at www.illinois.edu/~treaty.

Mvto to Grave Creek Indian Baptist volunteers

Submitted by Pam Palmer
Grave Creek Indian Baptist Church

OKEMAH — On behalf of the members of Grave Creek Indian Baptist Church, we would like to extend a big MVTO to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for the volunteer help we received recently in tearing down our “beloved” church.

A special Mvto to Bobby Jennings, Deacon Rusty Powell, Rev. Norman Daniels, Glen Jones, Charles and Butch Melton, Jed KitchKommie, & Phillip Johnson and all volunteers that were not mentioned for all their hard work. May God Bless each of you.

GRAVE CREEK CHURCH
EVERYONE WELCOME
(EST., 1857)
SUNDAY SERVICES STARTING 10 A.M.
WED. BIBLE STUDY 7 P.M.
(LEFT AT SCHOOL 1 BLK - THEN RIGHT)
"LOVE NEVER FAILS" 1COR. 13:8

MNN/*Starla Bush*

Pictured above is Grave Creek Indian Baptist Church which was recently gutted so that renovations may now be made to the structure.

Senior Services offers summer lawn assistance

Submitted by Jackson Barnett
MCN Senior Services

OKMULGEE — The Mvskoke Creek Nation Senior Services Program will again offer the lawn-cutting / tree-trimming service to Mvskoke senior citizens.

The service is now available and will end Sept. 30. This five-month period should enable the team to finish more yards than last year when they completed 88 yards in the span of only 26 days.

Like last year, senior services will schedule a number of yards in one community or town for each work day. This will prevent the team from traveling from one area to another that may be many miles away, which can be very time consuming.

Those requesting assistance through this program are asked to police their yards of paper, bricks, boards, diapers, clothes hangers and other items that may hinder work time and save the equipment from damage.

The service is set up to help our Creek senior citizens, 55 years and older, who may be unable to do this type of work for themselves or who cannot pay for such work.

Names will continue to be taken throughout the summer. To submit contact information including name, address and phone number, please contact Jackson Barnett at (918) 732 - 7723.

Yeager Indian Methodist to host gospel singing

Media Release
Yeager Mission Indian Methodist Church

YEAGER — The Yeager Mission Indian Methodist Church will host a gospel singing Sat., June 13 beginning at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

Signs will be posted for this event and directions from Wetumka are: go south on Hwy. 75 for five miles, turn right (east) on E. 1280 Rd., and follow blacktop road into Yeager and continue on road. Turn at second road on left-hand side, travel two more blocks and the church will be visible.

From Holdenville at the intersection of Hwy. 270 and 48, travel east on 270 for approximately 3.1 miles to Yeager Rd./CR N3740, then travel five miles, cross railroad tracks and turn right at the next section.

Haikey Chapel to host Indian Taco sale

Media Release
Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church

TULSA — Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church will host an Indian Taco Sale at June 13, 2009. They will be selling drinks, desserts and Indian Tacos from 11 a.m., to 2 p.m. Indian Tacos will be sold for $6.50, frybread $1, soda $.50, and desserts will be $1.

Haikey Chapel is located at 8515 E. 101st St., in Tulsa. For more information regarding this event, please contact Rev. July Tecumseh at (918) 681-6175.

McCombs Family Reunion slated for July 4

Media Release
McCombs Family

EUFAULA — The McCombs Family Reunion will be held July 4, 2009 at Tuskegee Indian Baptist Church west of Eufaula. Family and friends will share a covered dish luncheon, photos and favorite stories. This annual reunion originated in 1914. For more information, please contact Bud McCombs at (918) 360-0173.

And Still the Waters Run: *In search of a Creek mother*

Submitted by George Windes
CMCA Historian

YORBA LINDA, Cali., — My twin brother and I lost our mother two days following our births in 1940.

It was an event that would impact our family for years to come. Evelyn Freeman Windes was 26 years of age. Her marriage one year earlier to a non-Native man meant we lost not only our mother, but a culture we would have been raised in.

Photos courtesy of George Windes

Pictured above is Evelyn Freeman standing in front of Taft Union H.S., in Taft, Cali.

Dad remarried within a few years, but his own pain and/or concern for our step-mother’s feelings created a vacuum in which speaking of Evelyn was taboo. It was years before little stories concerning Evelyn’s Muscogee traits began to surface. Women in our family began whispering of her beauty, her goodness of character, her strong Christian beliefs and willingness to serve her husband, church and community.

As teenagers we began to spend more time with our Creek grandparents. Grandpa was an original enrollee, as were his siblings and mother. All had taken their lands at Hitchita. Additional stories surfaced. Grandma noted my brother’s tender heart and identified it as a gift from Evelyn’s bloodline. Her sister mentioned she always participated in the Green Corn festival. The family lived in Checotah until she was fifteen. After the family sought a new beginning in California, the children finished their education. The Baptist church (strong in Oklahoma), became a second refuge in the tough little oil town they settled in. Every summer though, there was a trip to be made back to Oklahoma. There Creek feasting began and close kin embraced.

Pictured above is Freeman about the time of her marriage to John Windes in 1939.

Evelyn was especially close to her grandmother, Josephine (Josie) Howell Freeman, a granddaughter of Red Eagle. Josie never missed the opportunity to teach about her grandfather, espousing his virtues. Once one of her sons was whipping his little boy for fighting. Josie stepped between them and said loudly, “Red Eagle never lied, but he fought for what he believed in.” She got her point across.

Pictured above is Freeman with an inquisitive look on her face.

Back in California several years later, Evelyn was asked to baby-sit. Our father was at his niece’s house when she arrived to take charge of two children. Dad decided an evening out held little interest and stayed to visit the pretty young Creek baby-sitter.

They were married three weeks later. They had one happy year together before birth and death terminated their union. In his old age, after my sweet stepmom was gone, dad told me a story which helped me understand Evelyn’s personality. He said if his young bride had but two dollars to her name, she would take a dollar, buy flowers and walk them across town to the room of a sick friend. A few treasured mementos have also appeared, Evelyn’s Sunday School certificate issued from Checotah First Baptist, her teenage photo album that holds dozens of tiny black and white photos of family and friends (on one self-photo, she has written “Indian Princess”). I also have a little rock collection, with several arrowheads found along the Deep Fork of the North Canadian River.

About a decade ago, our family sought out additional connections to our culture. We joined and accepted assignments in the California Muscogee (Creek) Association. We fellowshipped with other Creeks and were for the first time exposed to Creek language, food and introductions to our tribal leaders in Okmulgee. We learned of Creek warriors and chiefs and followed the worn trails of our heritage to Alabama. Places with names like Tullahassee, Okmulgee, Eufaula and Spokogee became familiar to us. We would meet cousins and research in Native libraries/museums (Joyce Bear is a friend). What we have accomplished (individually and as a family) is wonderful. We stand immersed in our roots. Our ancestors now live on through memories and narratives. But above all else, our Creek mother has returned to us. We acknowledge her sacrifice and carry flowers to her grave. Occasionally she peeks out at us from beneath the shade of grandfather’s grape arbor. Did you know that the name Evelyn is related to the Hebrew name of Eve? It means LIFE.

George Windes is a direct descendant of William Weatherford (Red Eagle). His paternal grandfather, Joseph Leroy (Roy) Freeman, his eight siblings and mother, Josephine Freeman, were all original MCN enrollees. He has written a dozen manuscripts concerning his Native heritage and is Creek, Natchez (a long time part of the Creek Confederacy) and Cherokee.

Windes has been an active member of the California Muscogee Creek Association for nearly a decade and is currently serving on the Board as historian in addition to his role as a father of five, and grandfather to twelve, nearly all of which hold citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. He may be reached at: georgewindes@gmail.com.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Kai Keawphalouk

YUKON — Kai Keawphalouk of Seminole, Okla. was selected to attend the Oklahoma State University Summer Science Academy " Exploring Quantitative Analysis: A Basic Introduction. This is a two-week long residential academy whose goal is to enhance students mathematical and scientific reasoning abilities. Students will learn basic concepts of research design and statistical concepts, data collection, survey design, observational research, computer use and presentation, learn more about careers in math and science. Academy dates are June 7 to 20, 2009.

Parents are Yotin and Clara Mae Keawphalouk.

His has two siblings; Michelle and Jalin.

Grandparents are the late George "Toby" Alexander and Hattie Bruner Alexander.

He is the nephew of Abbie L. Larney.

He is of the Bird Clan and of the Hickory Ground Tribal Town.

BIRTHS

Amiya Brookelynn Gutierrez

TOLTEC, Ariz., — Amiya Brooklynn Guthierrez was born Dec 4, 2008 at Casa Grande Regional Medical Center.

She weighed 7 pounds 15 ounces and was 22 inches in length.

She is the daughter of Brandy Richard and Michael Guthierrez.

Grandparents are Harold and Aletha Richard.

Great grandparents are Frank and Letha (Beaver) Rutherford.

She is of the Deer Clan and the Weogufkee Tribal Town.

BIRTHDAYS

April Oskee Barnett

OKMULGEE — April Oskee Barnett celebrated her third birthday with a Minnie Mouse themed party on April 29, 2009.

Her parents are Stephanie Good Voice and Roger Barnett.

She has two siblings; Chenoa and Eco Barnett.

Maternal grandparents are Sally and the late Kenneth Good Voice.

Paternal grandparents Rachel and the late Joseph Barnett.

Maternal great grandparents are the late Walter and Mary (Yahola) Jones and the late Elias and Keva (Lyotte) Good Voice.

Paternal great grandparents are the late Solomon and Nicey (Tecumseh) Wilson and the late James and Lizzie (Starr) Barnett.

She attends Creek Nation Okmulgee Child Development Center.

She is Muscogee (Creek) and Rosebud Sioux.

She is of the Raccoon Clan and of the Nuyaka Tribal Town.

Takoda Canard

OKEMAH — Takoda Canard celebrated his third birthday June 9, 2009 with a "Batman" themed party.

He is the son of Ashley Berryhill and Daryl Canard.

Maternal grandparents are Joseph and Esther Berryhill.

Paternal grandparents are Gwyn Taylor and Dennis Canard.

Great grandparents are the late Walter and Mary Jones and the late Elisa Roberts and Jennie and Joe Canard.

He attends Linda's Early Care Education Center.

He is of the Raccoon Clan and of the Nuyaka Tribal Town.

Talitha "Sister" Factor

OKMULGEE — Talitha "Sister" Factor celebrated her sixth birthday May 2, 2009 with a "Little Princess" themed party.

Parents are Ruben and Cynthia Factor.

She has one sibling; Chawka.

Grandparents areBonnie Factor and Richard Elvis and Sandy Watashe.

Great grandparents are Betsy and Joe Factor and Charlene Watashe.

She attends Okmulgee Primary School.

She is of the Wind Clan.

Patricia "Katie" Jefferson

MUSKOGEE — Patricia (Katie) Jefferson celebrated her birthday with friends and family on April 16, 2009.

She is the daughter of Betty Frances Jones Kimbell.

She has three children; James, Johnathan and Jordan.

She has five grandchildren; Bradyen, Brinnah, Briah, Baylee and Jameson.

Grandparents are the late Dave Jones and the late Grace Allen.

She is of the Deer Clan and attends Victory Christian Center.

Rosalynn Johnson

OKMULGEE — Rosalynn Johnson celebrated her third birthday June 8, 2009 with a "Dora the Explorer" themed party.

Parents are Victoria Kelly and Banox Johnson.

She has one sibling; Sammy Kelly.

Maternal grandparents are the late Eugene and Rose Kelly.

Paternal grandparents are Geneva Taylor.

She is of the Deer Clan and of the Weogufkee Tribal Town.

Samuel "Sammy" Kelly

OKMULGEE — Samuel "Sammy" Kelly celebrated his seventh birthday May 5, 2009 with a "Wall-E" themed party.

Parents are Victoria Kelly and Banox Johnson.

He has one sibling; Sammy Kelly.

Maternal grandparents are the late Eugene and Rose Kelly.

Paternal grandparents are Geneva Taylor.

He attends Okmulgee Primary and is in the second grade.

He is of the Deer Clan and of the Weogufkee Tribal Town.

Kat'cv Alexander Martinez

FRIONA, Texas — Kat'cv Alexander Martinez celebrated his sixth birthday with a "Homiez" themed party.

Parents are Lydia and Angel Martinez.

He has two siblings; Roberto and David.

Grandparents are Ester Pickup and David Wesley.

Great grandparents are the late Toby and Hattie Alexander and Howard and Emma Wesley.

He attends Friona Primary School and is of the Tiger Clan.

Tamra Renova

TULSA — Tamra Renova celebrated her eighth birthday June 12, 2009 with a "Horses" themed party.

Parents are Susan Alexander and David Renova.

She has two siblings; Iliana and Andrew.

Grandparents are David Alexander and Paulette Alexander.

Great grandparents are Andy Alexander and Linda Alexander.

She attends Sante Fe Elementary and is of the Bear Clan.

Andrew D. Scarberry

MCLOUD — Andrew D. Scarberry celebrated his 18th birthday at Grand Lake with friends and family.

Parents are Susan Alexander and Carl Scarberry.

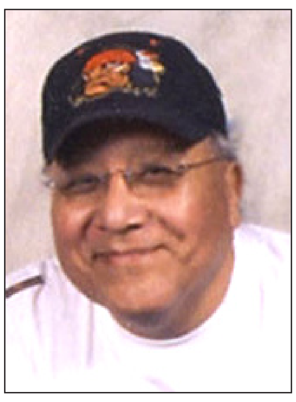
He has two siblings; Iliana and Tamra.

Grandparents are David Alexander and Paulette Alexander.

Great grandparents are Andy Alexander and Linda Alexander.

He is of the Bear Clan.

David Johnathan Wesley



FRIONA, Texas — David Johnathan Wesley celebrated his 56th birthday May 30, 2009.

He is the son of Howard and Emma Wesley.

He has eight siblings; Andy, Victor, Leon, John, Ida, Leeann, Emma and Latisha.

Grandparents are Andy and Ida Harrid and Joe Wesley.

Great grandparents are Muska and Soma.

He attends church in Tulsa at the New Life Indian Baptist Church and is a licensed minister at Gracemont Indian Mission.

He is of the Wind Clan and the Eufaula Tribal Town.

Marlena Wesley

OOLOOGAH — Marlena Wesley celebrated her 13th birthday on April 13, 2009.

Her parents are Denise Aragon and Calvin Pickup.

Grandparents are Ester Pickup and David Wesley and Calvin and Nancy Pickup.

Great grandparents are Toby and Hattie Alexander and Bill and Ollie Pickup.

She attends Eufaula Public Schools and is of the Tiger Clan.

Jamie Rose Yahola

HOLDENVILLE — Jamie Rose Yahola celebrated her eighth birthday on June 6, 2009.

Parents are Susie and Lourdes Yahola.

Grandparents are Amos and Linda Yahola.

She attends Ethel Reed Elementary and is of the Bear Clan.

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

It's before dawn in Honolulu and the neighborhood of birds is noisily singing and talking away, even more than usual. Fuscate (Redbird) has been in the habit lately of singing about four in the morning. It's spring and he's knocking himself out because he's in love. There's nothing like falling-in-love energy. It has written songs, poetry, built houses and inspired one of the most beautiful monuments in the world, the Taj Mahal. Love has started and ended wars. Guess we might try falling in love a little everyday, with the sunrise, with our tired selves, with a happy redbird giving up a little morning song to start the day. Might make things a little brighter.

I haven't been out here on the island much these days. I've been traveling about the country, to Los Angeles, Albuquerque, and most recently to northwest Alabama to the University of Northern Alabama in Florence with my guitar player Larry Mitchell, to perform music and speak. Every time I return to Alabama I get a little more of the story of our people.

We were graciously taken care of by Pam Kingsbury, a professor at the university. She and the music wise man Terry Pace toured us around the area. We walked the first evening at dusk along the banks of the Tennessee River. The legend in the area goes that the original peoples would gather by the water to sing, and the water would sing back. There were many Old Ones still present along that path of immense trees and those wide, rolling, singing waters.

The next few days we were taken on a tour of the Muscle Shoals studios that included the FAME Studio opened in 1959. Those who recorded there are a who's who in the music industry: Wilson Pickett, Otis Redding, Duane Allman, The Osmonds, Bobbie Gentry, and my favorite singer of all time: Aretha Franklin. The studio is still recording hits. The 3614 Jackson Highway Recording Studio is the original site of the Muscle Shoals Sound Studios. This was another place that still vibrates with the energy of musical achievement. The Rolling Stones recorded "Wild Horses" there, and many other hits by many other artists like Paul Simon and Pete Segar. At the Alabama Music Hall of Fame we walked through the Lynard Skynard "Sweet Home Alabama" tour bus and saw the many exhibits celebrating Alabama artists like Nat King Cole, the Father of the Blues W. C. Handy, who as a boy visualized birdcalls as notes on a scale, and Sam Phillips who created the Elvis legend. The blues, rock and roll, country, gospel and jazz museum features Alabamians who changed the course of music history.

What struck me as walked along the river, and through those places of musical power was the absence of native musicians and singers. What is known as American music was birthed in our traditional homelands and we contributed to that genesis. The African and European contributions are always mentioned in the story of American music, but our tribal peoples are left out of the equation. It's time to change that story.

Creek author book tour to begin June 25

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

TAHLEQUAH — Billie Jane McIntosh, who recently completed her second novel, *From Georgia Tragedy to Oklahoma Frontier, A Biography of Scots Creek Indian Chief Chilly McIntosh*, will be embarking upon a tour with dates in Georgia and Alabama. McIntosh visited the Muscogee (Creek) Nation capital just after the book was released in order to donate a copy to the Cultural Preservation Library.

"The book tells the life story of the eldest son of Chief William McIntosh, Chilly, who was born about 1800 near Columbus, Ga.," said McIntosh.

Chilly was responsible for bringing the first group of Creeks to Oklahoma in 1827, where they established farms, ranches, toll bridges, schools and churches in the area south and east of present day Tulsa. Interesting facts cultivated in the novel include accounts of Chilly's athletic ability, manly beauty, speaking and writing skills and honorable leadership.

McIntosh is scheduled for eight speaking engagements plus several book signings over the eight-day tour, which will begin June 24 and continue through July 2. The tour includes some locations already visited by McIntosh during her research for the book and a few new locations. "I'm excited revisit some familiar places and get to know the history of the new locations," said McIntosh.

Some of the speaking engagements scheduled for McIntosh coincide with interesting historical facts from her book. McIntosh will be speaking at Whitesburg, Ga., where Chilly McIntosh swam for his life across the famous Chattahoochie River in 1825. The remodeled Indian Springs Inn, which was originally built by Chilly's father in 1823, is another significant location in which McIntosh will be speaking. She will be speaking in Columbus just North of Ft. Mitchell, the first home Chilly and his wife shared. In Tuscumbia, Ala., McIntosh will be promoting her book where Chilly and the first group of 738 Creeks camped before boarding the S.S. Facility to eventually find themselves in Ft. Gibson Okla.

For more information about the dates, e-mail questions to billiejanem@gmail.com. To obtain a copy of her latest book or others by this author visit, www.americanhistoryimprints.com.

Photograph submitted

Pictured above is Billie Jane McIntosh, whose tour kicks off in the ancestral Creek lands on June 24.

"I'm excited to re-visit some familiar places and looking forward to getting to know the history of the new locations."

– Creek Author, Billie Jane McIntosh

Thursday, June 25 - 11 a.m. - Speaking at Columbus State University at Columbus Ga.,

Friday, June 26 - 11:30 a.m. - Speaking at a Kiwanis Luncheon in Carrollton, Ga.,

Saturday, June 27 - Speaking at Indian Springs Hotel, near Jackson, Ga., This was formerly The McIntosh Inn, built by Chief William McIntosh.

Sunday, June 28 - Speaking at Neva Lomason Library at Carrollton, Ga., in the afternoon.

Monday, June 29 - 1:30 p.m. - Reading Creek Indian Legends to children at Whitesburg, Ga., Library. 5 p.m. - Picnic at McIntosh Reserve Park at Whitesburg, Ga., with members of several historical societies. 6:30 p.m. - Speaking to the public in the Amphitheater at the McIntosh Reserve Park.

Tuesday, June 30 - Speaking at Tuscumbia, Ala., book store.

Wednesday, July 1 - 3 p.m. - Signing books at Scotts Book Store in Newnan, Ga., 7:30 p.m. - Speaking at Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Newnan, Ga.

Creek citizens remember Wayman Tisdale

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

OKMULGEE — The passing of Wayman Tisdale has left thousands with feelings of sadness and retrospect as they looked back on a man who left his mark on the game of basketball and more importantly, on the game of life.

Tisdale was a three-time All-American at the University of Oklahoma, Gold Medalist, and played 12 years in the National Basketball Association (NBA), but it was Tisdale's personality and inner 'self-happiness' that made him so charismatic. It was his demeanor and special outlook on life that made anyone that came in contact with him, whether they were black, white, or Native American, know they had met someone special.

Although Tisdale wasn't Muscogee (Creek), his life did touch Creek citizens and employees around the Nation.

Thompson Gouge, who serves as the Nation's Public Relations Representative sang in a church choir with Tisdale who aided in a musical back-up capacity.

"I sang with a choir in Tulsa," said Gouge. "We (choir) were always practicing on weekends and when Wayman was available for practice or concerts, he would be there," Gouge stated. Gouge and others would help him unload his guitar and other musical equipment to prepare for the sessions.

Of course, it was the guitar, specifically the bass guitar that Tisdale was truly talented with. His music, along with his jazz band became known around the world and Tisdale also created a number of smooth jazz songs that reached number one the Rhythm and Blues charts.

Gouge recalls one time when he was helping Tisdale take the music equipment in the church and something happened that Gouge would always remember. "I saw that he needed help so I went behind the SUV to give him a hand," says Gouge. "As I was getting ready to help him get his guitar out of the back of the truck, it (guitar) accidently slipped out of my hand. The guitar hit the ground kind of hard and he looked at me. At first, I didn't know what to think and then he started to smile, and he knew it was going to be all right. I was glad that he smiled and it did turn out alright; we had a good concert," laughs Gouge.

Mellissa Culley who works in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation personnel department remembers Tisdale and his great playing days at OU and how it was special for her and her family to watch the college games whenever they came on TV.

"Wayman Tisdale was such a household name in my house growing up and that he was the first person that I really watched on TV," says Culley. "I was young, but my Dad not having a boy at the time to watch sports with, I watched it with him, plus we only had one TV," laughs Culley. "Teams weren't on TV as much as they are now, so we were truly graced to watch him play. In my opinion, he was truly the first superstar to really put Oklahoma on the map in basketball."

Photograph submitted

Pictured above is Wayman Tisdale who will be remembered fondly by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation community, friends and admirers of his many accomplishments in this world.

Finally, this writer has to share his reflections on this basketball and musical legend that really did seem to leave an impact on everyone that lives in the state of Oklahoma.

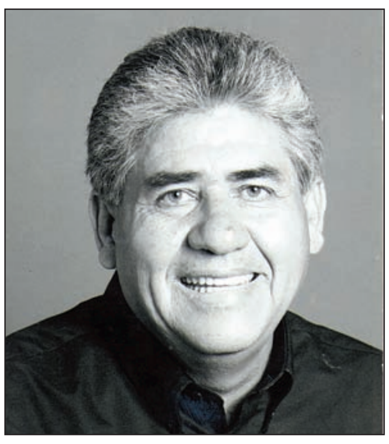
In the summer of 1984, I was a wide-eyed, naive, young Indian boy, some people might say that I still am, but anyway I had just arrived on the campus of the University of Oklahoma. It was August and the summer Olympic games had just wrapped up in Los Angeles a few weeks before. I was coming out of the Native American Counselor's office on campus and looking at my class schedule, trying to figure out what buildings I needed to go to for the beginning of school that would be starting the next week. As I was looking at all my papers, I heard a voice just right across the street say "Hey! How's it going?" I immediately looked up and saw the man himself just taking a summer stroll down the sidewalk. He was definitely the 'toast' of Norman, Okla., as well as the Nation at that time, having played on the U.S. Olympic Men's Basketball team that had captured the Gold Medal in the games.

At first I thought he was talking with someone else, but noticing no one around me, I gave back a greeting and waved, Tisdale had that signature smile and I still couldn't figure out why he took the time to say hi to me. I took it as good sign that I chosen the right school to go to. 'Maybe there was something special here after all," I thought.

Just a few months ago, the OU men's basketball team came to Tulsa to take on the University of Tulsa. I was fortunate enough to get a ticket on the floor, getting into the pre-game hype and waiting for the tip-off, I looked around and couldn't help but notice a tall gentleman in a cool, white suit walking with a cane, it was Wayman and my remembrance of him greeting me so many years ago made me not hesitate in giving the greeting back to him that day. I immediately went up to him and shook his hand, again that smile came out and he said, "Hey, how's it going?" He will be missed.

OBITUARIES

HAROLD COACHMAN



CLAREMORE — Harold Eugene (Captain) Coachman was born December 24, 1940 in Talahini to Jay Gould Coachman and Barbara Lee Coachman. He passed from this life on May 8th.

He was known to some as “Captain Coachman” and will be remembered for his generosity, kindness and his love for his tribe, culture and traditions.

He is survived by his daughters; Barbara Ruth Easler of SC., Shirley Lynn Bunton of Mo., sons; Larry Todd Coachman of Washington, and Troy Coachman of Wa. sisters; Karen Helms and beloved sister and best friend Sandra Kendall both of Okla., brother; Jim Coachman of Ca., 10 grand kids, four great grand kids, and several nieces and nephews.

A private family service was held in Claremore.

THANK YOU

HENRYETTA — We, the children of Johnny Joe Asbury would like to take this time to say “Thank you” to the following individuals: Rev. A.J. Tiger, Rev. Dennis Bible, Dorcas Tiger, Wilma Jean Tiger, Tony Tiger, Carol Howell, Kenny Pinkston, Lewis Bible Jr., Silver Springs Baptist Church, Fannie Barnett, Dewar Indian Community Center, Liz Jones, Thomas Yahola, Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard, Creek Nation Tribal Police Officer Daniel Wind, Pat Kelly, Pat Powell, Pam Powell, Peggy Factor, Okmulgee VFW Post. We deeply appreciate all that each one of you has done for us to get through during our loss.

We want to say to Rogers Funeral Home “Thank you so very much!” Citizens, I want to highly express the service this funeral home provided to our family. The director, Shawn Rogers, was so thoughtful, full of kindness and helpful in all ways needed. They gave us warm and friendly services. We can’t say enough about this funeral home but thank you for everything you did for our family, and may God bless you, your staff, and business.

If we left any person out, we apologize but “Thank you” and God bless each one of you. Mvto.

- Austin Asbury and Family, Augustine Asbury and family, and Alison Alexander and family.

JANET JONES

CALI., — Janet Doris Jones was born on April, 15 of 1925 and lived through January 26, 2009. She was the daughter of Louisa Island and Andrew Grounds.

She was preceeded in death by her brother Johnny Carr (Castillo).

She married James M. Cathcart and had seven children: James A. Cathcart, Irene L. Cathcart, William J. Cathcart, Robert D. Cathcart, Mary B. Cathcart, Laura A. Cathcart, and Janet L. Cathcart.

They later divorced and she married William R. Jones and lived in California.

She was a beautiful person who appreciated the opportunity to live life here on earth. She was thankful to God for his goodness and was a great example for all to see. She was proud to be a Muscogee (Creek) Indian.

HONOR GUARD MEMORIAL

HENRYETTA — On Sunday, May 10, 2009 (Sgt.) John Joe Asbury (U.S. Army - Korean-era) joined the ranks of proud Mvskoke warriors who have defended their Nation throughout history with Honor and integrity.

John played an important role in the formation of the Honor Guard with his knowledge of military honors and procedures. Educating the group, at our earliest meetings, in protocol and proper commands and providing a meeting place for us at the V.F.W. post in Henryetta. John led by example and never missed an opportunity to honor his fellow veterans. As his own health began to fail he was still known to show up, using his walker to stand in formation and call out commands in a crisp, military manner.

The Honor Guard is thankful to have had him as a founding member, as he helped shape us into what we are today and we will all miss him. The dedication and efforts John showed to his fellow veterans will not be forgotten and shall serve as an inspiration to all who follow in his footsteps.

- Vern Courtwright

JOHNNY ASBURY

HENRYETTA — Johnny Asbury was born on July 24, 1929 in Henryetta to Joseph and Lillie (Lewis) Asbury. He went to be with the Heavenly Father on May 10 in Okmulgee at the age of 79.

Johnny Joe attended Bryant Schools where he graduated and later went to college at Haskell Indians Nations College in Lawrence, Kan.

On January 30, 1951 John enlisted in the U.S. Army. He did his basic training at Camp Atterberry then was later deployed to Germany. He also served in the Korean Conflict and was a member of the 28th Division National Guard of Pennsylvannia, The Detachment 1 Company C 120 Engineer Battalion. Mr. Asbury was awarded the Oklahoma Meritorious Service Medal by Rank of SGT. 1st class. He discharged from the U.S. Army January 15, 1953.

On June 8, 1957, Johnny married Leah Thompson in Wetumka. They resided in Henryetta after their marriage and were soon blessed with five children, Austin, Augustine, Agness, Allen and Alison.

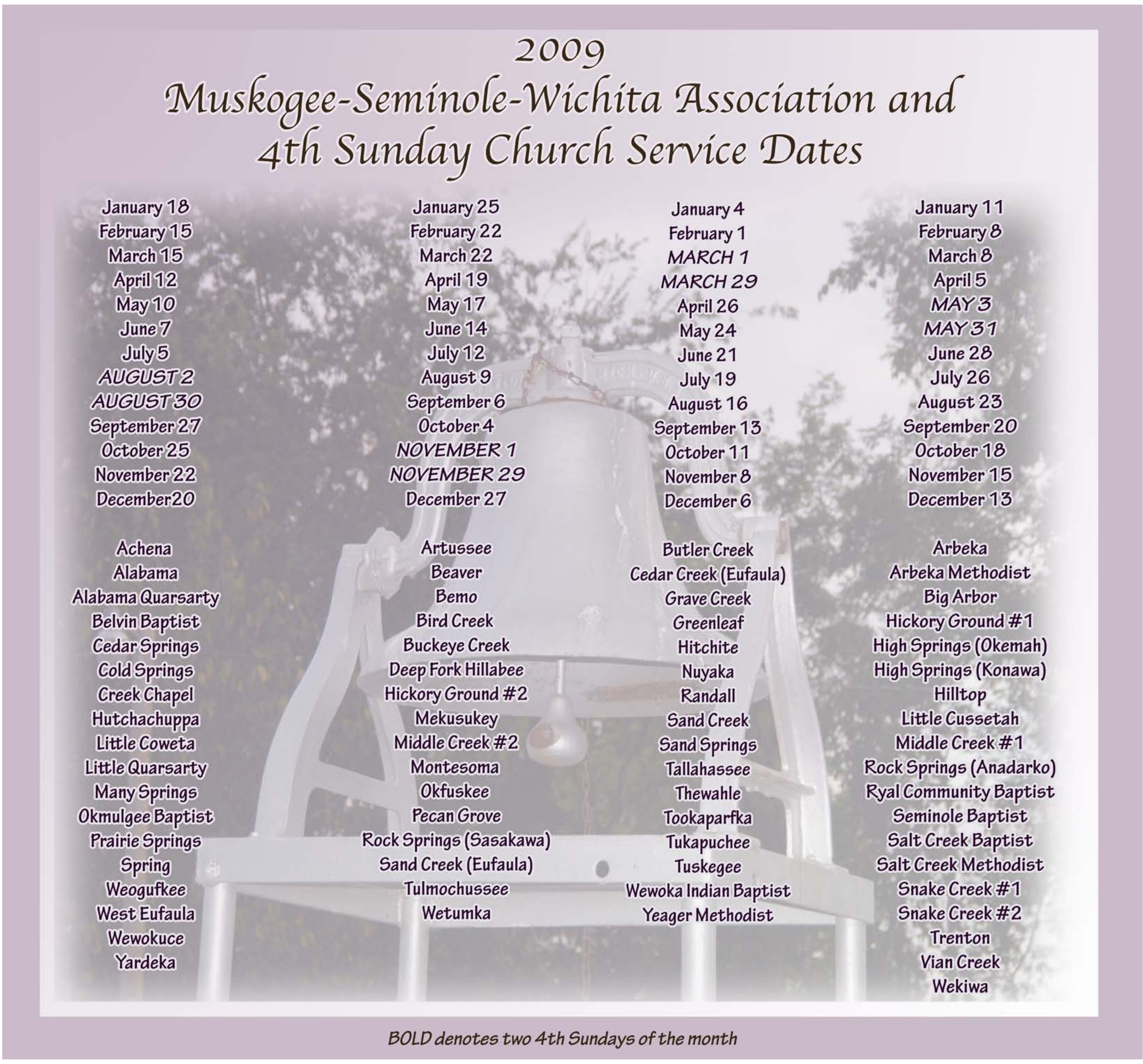
John held various offices of the V.F.W. And was a lifetime member along with The Korean War Veterans Association, The Korean War Veterans Association of Oklahoma Chapter 89, Henryetta Historical Society, National Guard 120th Engineer Battalion, 45th division National Guard Association of Oklahoma, Haskell Alumni Association and the Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard.

He retired from the Military in 1987, retired from PPG Industries.

Preceding him in death were: his parents Lillie (Lewis) Asbury and Joseph Asbury, wife Leah Asbury, son Allen Asbury, daughter Agnes Asbury, grand daughter Dawn Perkins, and brother Buster Barnett.

Survivors include: his children Austin and Gay Asbury of Glenpool; Augustine Asbury of Henryetta, Alison (Asbury) Alexander of Okmulgee, and Linda Chislum of Okmulgee; grand children Daphne Asbury, Melany and B.J. Waggnor, Devon (Stevy) Asbury, Cara Alexander, and other grandchildren and great grandchildren; sister Carol Ann Morris of Tulsa; brothers Wilbur Starr of Wewoka and Wesley Asbury of Witchita Falls, Texas; along with other nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends. Johnny Joe will be missed by those he leaves behind.

He was laid to rest at Westlawn Cemetery at Henryetta, with a 21 gun salute conducted by Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard. Okmulgee and Henryetta V.F.W. and National Guard were the pallbearers.



2009
Muskogee-Seminole-Wichita Association and 4th Sunday Church Service Dates

January 18
February 15
March 15
April 12
May 10
June 7
July 5
AUGUST 2
AUGUST 30
September 27
October 25
November 22
December20

January 25
February 22
March 22
April 19
May 17
June 14
July 12
August 9
September 6
October 4
NOVEMBER 1
NOVEMBER 29
December 27

January 4
February 1
MARCH 1
MARCH 29
April 26
May 24
June 21
July 19
August 16
September 13
October 11
November 8
December 6

January 11
February 8
March 8
April 5
MAY 3
MAY 31
June 28
July 26
August 23
September 20
October 18
November 15
December 13

Achena
Alabama
Alabama Quarsarty
Belvin Baptist
Cedar Springs
Cold Springs
Creek Chapel
Hutchachuppa
Little Coweta
Little Quarsarty
Many Springs
Okmulgee Baptist
Prairie Springs
Spring
Weogufkee
West Eufaula
Wewokuce
Yardeka

Artussee
Beaver
Bemo
Bird Creek
Buckeye Creek
Deep Fork Hillabee
Hickory Ground #2
Mekusukey
Middle Creek #2
Montesoma
Okfuskee
Pecan Grove
Rock Springs (Sasakawa)
Sand Creek (Eufaula)
Tulmochussee
Wetumka

Butler Creek
Cedar Creek (Eufaula)
Grave Creek
Greenleaf
Hitchite
Nuyaka
Randall
Sand Creek
Sand Springs
Tallahassee
Thewahle
Tookaparfka
Tukapuchee
Tuskegee
Wewoka Indian Baptist
Yeager Methodist

Arbeka
Arbeka Methodist
Big Arbor
Hickory Ground #1
High Springs (Okemah)
High Springs (Konawa)
Hilltop
Little Cussetah
Middle Creek #1
Rock Springs (Anadarko)
Ryal Community Baptist
Seminole Baptist
Salt Creek Baptist
Salt Creek Methodist
Snake Creek #1
Snake Creek #2
Trenton
Vian Creek
Wekiwa

BOLD denotes two 4th Sundays of the month

"Thunder and Lightning" strike Sterling

• Goodrich and July have campus buzzing about Warrior basketball

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

ABOVE: Thunder (Randy July) and Lightning (Zac Goodrich) celebrate together following Sterling's win to clinch the school's first KCAC conference title.

LEFT: Zac Goodrich drives the ball past his defender on the way to the hoop. Goodrich was third in the league in steals and his play earned him First Team All-Conference honors in only his second season.

RIGHT: Randy July ususally doesn't need a ladder to get above the rim, but he uses one here to cut down the nets following Sterling's KCAC Championship. In his first year of college basketball, July was selected to the KCAC All-Freshman Team, averaging 5.9 points per game and finishing with 19 blocks.

STERLING, Kan., — A couple years ago Dean Jaderston took a chance. He was about to begin his first year as head coach at Sterling College, a small Christian school on the Kansas plains, and he knew in order to be successful he was going to have to recruit. Not so much the high-profile names, but the hidden talent. He just didn't know that search would take him to an all-Indian tournament in small-town Oklahoma.

"When I first came to Henryetta for the Madness in March Tournament, I didn't really know what to expect," said Jaderston, back in March at this year's event. "When I left I was thinking, man, I might have hit the jackpot. There was a lot of great talent."

Among those talented athletes was Zach Goodrich. The talented firecracker point guard might have been known best in these parts as the big brother of Angel, who was a two-time Oklahoma Player of the Year and is now at the University of Kansas, but Jaderston saw Zach for his own talent and convinced him to sign with Sterling. Goodrich rewarded Jaderston's belief in him by making the All-Freshman team in his first year of college ball. He did one better this year, making first team All-Conference and leading the Warriors to the school's first conference championship. Simply put, Zach was the captain of the boat and the leader that Jaderston needed.

"It seemed that almost every big run we went on this year was triggered by Zach," said Jaderston.

His incredible quickness to the goal, and cat-like reflexes have earned Zach the nickname of "Lightning" around the Sterling campus. Of course as everyone knows lightning wouldn't be complete without some thunder. And that is where Zach's longtime teammate and good buddy Randy "Air" July stepped into the picture.

He was a year behind Zach in high school, but Jaderston saw all that he needed to of July on that March afternoon. The ridiculous athleticism, the ability to play inside and out, and the basketball savvy to go with it all.

"The first time I saw Randy, I knew that we needed to get him to Sterling," Jaderston said. "I just kept thinking this kid has got unlimited potential.

Easily recognizable by his signature ponytail, the high flying Creek Indian had already carved out a hefty reputation as the two-time National Native American slam-dunk champion and was tailor-made to be a fan favorite wherever his basketball career took him. He just figured why not join Zach at Sterling and keep a good thing going. Now Goodrich had someone to throw those bone-crushing alley-oops and monster jams to. He had his "Thunder." And the Sterling student body and fans were energized by the new style that "Thunder and Lightning" brought to the school.

"Those two are like rock stars around this campus with how popular they are," said Jaderston. "Our fans weren't used to that style of play, and I think their energy manifested itself in our entire team."

It must have. The team got on a roll in Randy's first year and finished as conference champions for the first time advancing to the NAIA Division II National Tournament in Branson, Missouri where they would eventually bow out in a close game to legendary coach Rollie Massimino's Northwood University squad. July finished the year on a sloid note, however, as he was named to the KCAC All-Freshman team just as Zach was a year ago.

"As he matures as a player and gets stronger, he's going to be unstoppable," said Jaderston of his 6'4" high flier.

The Native Americans in Oklahoma have got to be filled with pride over the way these young men are representing themselves, their tribes and their communities at the college level. With both Goodrich and July back next year and following the momentum of this year's record season Sterling's coach knows the "Oklahoma Indian Connection" should be a big piece of the winning puzzle.

"The future is very bright for Sterling College men's basketball because of these two."

First annual "Diamond Showcase" a home run

• 10 Creeks among those picked for summer tournaments

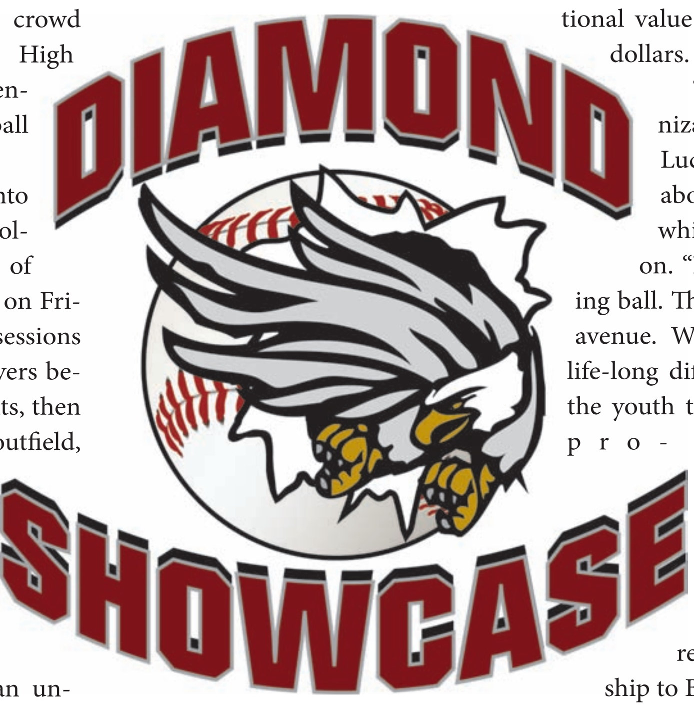
by Jason Salsman
MCN Sports Editor

MUSKOGEE — Torrential winds and rain that moved in late Saturday afternoon halted play in the first annual All-Indian "Diamond Showcase" baseball tournament. But not before the crowd gathered at Muskogee High School's baseball park enjoyed a great day of baseball action.

Players began filing into registration at Bacone College, which did a fine job of hosting over the weekend, on Friday and player evaluation sessions immediately followed. Players began by running 60 ft. sprints, then followed up with infield, outfield, catching, pitching and hitting drills. The players were then placed onto four respective teams to compete in pool-play action the following day.

The competition began under sunny, baseball-perfect skies at 10 a.m., with a good crowd on hand for the action. By the time the 6 p.m., game rolled around, however, so had the storm clouds. The heavy rains washed out the championship, but all four teams got in at least two games.

"We were sure hoping the weather would hold up," said tournament co-coordinator Wiley Ryal. "But the kids had a great time playing and it was a treat watching them."



The real treat might have been for the players themselves. Each player in attendance was awarded a 35 percent scholarship to Bacone College. A gift estimated in educational value at over half a million dollars.

"That's what this organization is all about," said Lucas Taylor, speaking about 4 Love of the Game, which put the tournament on. "Not just out here playing ball. That's fun, but it's just an avenue. We're trying to make a life-long difference in the lives of the youth that come through our programs," Taylor said.

The tournament's outstanding defensive player Kory Bible of Checotah, a member of the Creek Nation, received a full scholarship to Bacone.

In addition, the showcase's top talent were chosen for an all-expenses paid trip to this summer's New Era Cap Classic tournament in Buffalo, N.Y.

HOTCORNER

JASONsalsman
jsalsman@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
(918) 732-7644

Estonko! A big-time shout-out to the Corner peeps this month. I know you guys have dearly missed the opinions of The Sals, as the Hot Corner has been sidelined for a couple months now. But, I'm glad to say that it is back and back with a vengeance. By the way, does anybody ever wonder why the baseball in my hand is yellow? Just so you know, I don't get that one either. Oh well, lets get down to business and run down the movings and shakings in the sports world.

NBA playoffs anyone? Is it just me or is anyone else getting tired of watching these thugs? Every time I turn a game on there is a dirty foul, a tussle or somebody getting a technical. And I am sick and tired of hearing the tired old excuse of "its the playoffs, so the intensity level goes up." News flash; other sports have playoffs too fellas, and theirs do not resemble the yard at San Quentin Prison. Fines need to go up and suspensions need to be for more games. My grandma always had me pick out a switch when I got out of line. I think it might be time for some of these NBA ballers to visit the nearest tree.

I know some people might not categorize it as a sport but the cornstalk shoot is coming up at this year's festival and I would like to see a huge crowd over on the complex grounds at this event. The Cvkotakse Seccvlke, which is the Muscogee Bowshooters Society, has worked hard in their efforts to keep alive the beautiful artistry of making and shooting Creek bows and we as a Nation should get on board. If you don't want to participate at least attend for a few minutes and let the guys know how much their efforts to advance the culture of the Mvskokvlke is appreciated.

Got a lot of comments on the Old School vs. New School article that G-Woff and I did in May's MNN Extra about the status of Native American Fast-Pitch softball. Got a few e-mails and calls in from folks who appreciated our article, many of whom had countless stories and memories of their own. I'll say it again, it's up to the younger generation to keep this great tradition alive. The next time you share your stories with your kids, grandkids or nieces and nephews about the great game, make sure they know how important it is to get teams together. Have practices, organize tournaments, stay competitive. This is too good a game and too good a tradition to have it fall off like it has. Let's have a good crop of ballplayers come up that are tired of hitting a ball coming in at 2-3 mph, and play the game that the 'Skins from yesterday made our very own.

This time of year has to be my favorite. Summer is just starting, and the tribal festival tournaments will be in full swing. What makes these so great is the million other events going on around the ball fields and the atmosphere of it all. Last year, I remember playing fast-pitch at Seminole with Ronnie Milsap on tap that night. Does it get any better than digging into the batter's box and hearing "Smoky Mountain Rain" in the background? Probably not.

A quick congratulations are in order for all the Native American high school baseball players who participated in the 1st Annual Diamond Showcase this past weekend at Muskogee High School and Bacone College. As a coach, it was pleasing to see that not only were the boys good at baseball, they were good character kids as well.

Looks like that will do it for this month. Until next time, Mvtoooooooooo!

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Juried Art Competition
Vendors on the Lawn

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Creek Council House Museum

June 16-20

MOVIE NIGHT!

ATTN: UNITED STATES ARMY VETERANS

In Honor of Muscogee Veterans
the VASO will be hosting
"MOVIE NIGHT"
Thursday 25 June 2009

To Celebrate The Birth Month Of The Army
(14 June 1775)

- Showtime - 2000 Hrs. - 25 June 2009
- Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
- Movie - **Battleground** (The Story of "Battle Of The Bulge")
- Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
- Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
- Smoking Lamp is Lit
- Price of Admission - Army Veterans must wear their MCN Veterans Vest (If you do not have a vest bring in your DD-214 to be measured for a MCN Veterans vest)
- Muscogee Army Veterans are now allowed to bring one guest. (Please limit to only one guest)
- **"MOVIE NIGHT"** is for Muscogee Veterans only (Plus one guest)
- Any questions call Shawn Taryole at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7745

KVCO HVSE - BLACKBERRY MONTH

THE MNN

• EXTRA EDITION •

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Volume 2, Issue 5 www.themuscogeecreeknation.com **June 2009**

Rebecca Landsberry

Letter from the Editor:

Hensci readers! Hope you've all gotten your naps and eaten your Wheaties because it is officially FESTIVAL. Congratulations to both our graduates and lovely new Miss Muscogee royalty, you all certainly have a busy month ahead of you. One of the ladies first official appearances will be atop a float in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Parade which is scheduled for 10 a.m., on Saturday, June 20, so be sure to wave at them as they go by.

Speaking of the parade,... there is still time to enter a float for competition or just for fun. It's a great opportunity to spend time with your coworkers, friends or business partners and represent your community as well. If it's the deadline you're worried about, have no fear.

Parade Coordinator Melinda Deeringwater says she will still be accepting entries up until the week of the Festival, so there's still time to snatch up all the crate paper at the party stores and get to pomping those floats for your church, department, ground or community. For more information, contact Melinda at (918) 732 - 759-4172 or Ellen at (918) 759 - 4121.

I will see you all there and don't forget to smile when you see a Communications camera, unless of course you're trying to look fierce for the competition in softball. Then I understand. Be safe!

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

- 2009 Creek Festival edition

Events, contacts and highlights for this year's Muscogee Festival

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- 2009 Muscogee graduates

Welcome from the MCN Office of Tourism & Recreation

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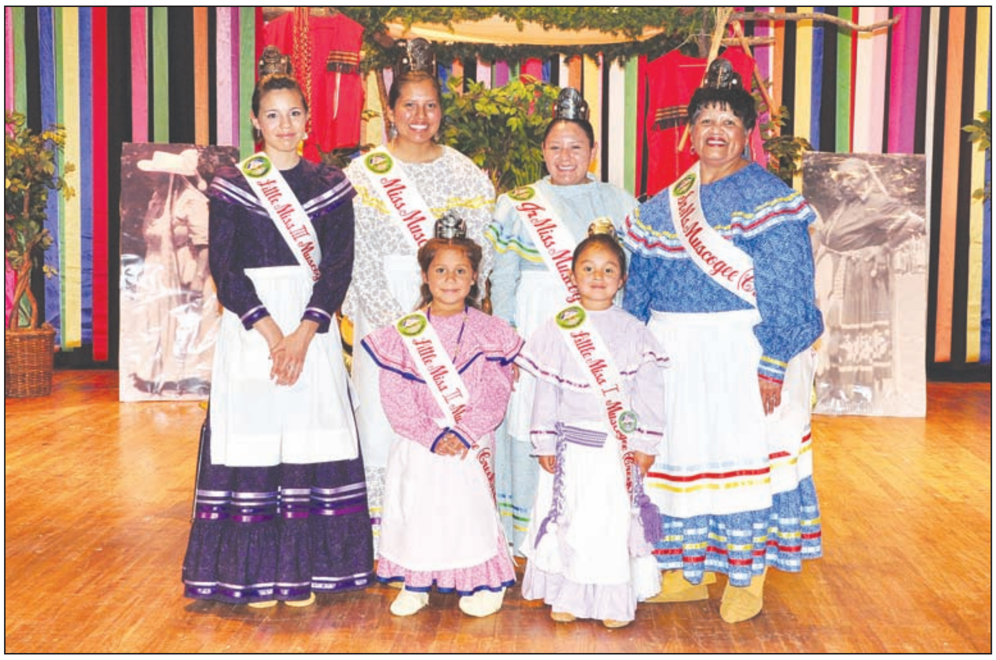
ROCHELL WERITO CROWNED 35TH ANNUAL

MISS MUSCOGEE NATION

by Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Writer

HENRYETTA —The Festival begins with the Miss Muscogee Scholarship Pageant. The Miss and Jr. Miss categories were held June 5 at 7 p.m., followed by the Little Miss and Sr. Miss categories on June 6 at 10 a.m. Both days of the pageant took place at the Henryetta High School Auditorium in Henryetta, Okla. Attendees witnessed the skills, talents and beauty of Muscogee women from the age of four years to 55 and better.



MNN/*Mallory Bible*

Pictured above are 2009-2010 Miss Muscogee Scholarship Pageant winners for the Little Miss Divisions I, II and III, Junior Miss, Miss Muscogee Nation, and Senior Miss Muscogee Nation.

Muscogee Nation Scholarship Pageant committee is proud to present the 2009-2010 Royalty. Representing our Nation for 2009-10 is Miss Muscogee Rochell Werito, Runner -up for the Miss category is Jamie Rolland. Junior Miss Muscogee Nation is Leah Scott and Junior category Runner-up is Jenna Rolland. Division I of the Little Miss winner was Jaylie Dry, and runner-up was Louisa Harjo. The winner for Division II was Talia Buckley and runner-up, Angel Hartley. Division III winner was Kyla LaMere with runner-up Justina Butler. Senior Miss was bestowed on Bonnie Gibson who impressed the panel with her *Osofke*. Runner-up for the Senior Miss was Carol Pendergrass.

Miss Muscogee Nation, Rochell Werito, attends Oklahoma State University at Stillwater she is a Sister of Alpha Pi Omega Sorority that is one of nine of the first Native American Sorority houses nationwide. Her Major is Leisure Studies and her Minor is Child Development.

Werito is the daughter of Charlena and Clifford Werito of Oklahoma City, OK. Maternal Grandparents are the late Monroe and the late Josephine Wind of Wetumka. Her Paternal grandparents are Rita and Bobby Werito of Farmington, NM.Werito expressed her gratitude to have the honor of representing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and her desire to inspire others to become more deeply involved in their culture. She stated that she looks forward to representing the nation.

SEE PAGE 4

35th Annual Muscogee (Creek) Festival preview

Submitted by Cherokee Hicks
Tourism & Recreation

OKMULGEE — Hesci, The Muscogee (Creek) Nation's 35th Annual Celebration of Creek Heritage begins in June. Everyone is welcome to join this major festival free of charge!

Bring a pair of good legs and join in the Stompdance ceremony on June 18th at 6 p.m. at the Cultural Lawn behind the Mound. These dances are normally performed all night long. Fellowship begins at 6 p.m.

Become a spectator of our traditional games or join in the competition. Unlike many of our tribal neighbors, the Muscogee Tribe was mound builders. Some of our designs were brought over via the Trail of Tears. You may see these interesting designs at this event.

Play competitive ball with athletes from across the nation on our new softball fields! Some of the tournaments include volleyball, softball, and basketball.

Be on the edge of your seats watching the Pony Express Race in this year's IPRA rodeo (locals welcomed to enter)!

Advertise your company or program in front of thousands of people watching the parade. Participate in a marching band to let everyone hear your talents!

Young and Better will enjoy junior and senior activities throughout the Festival. See beautiful quilts and other items displayed and a mean tournament of Jacks played at the Senior Activities!

SEE PAGE 2

KYMCO 250 scooter to be raffled

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE —The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office Tourism & Recreation is currently selling tickets to win a 2009 KYMCO Grandvista 250 scooter which will get an estimated 70 MPG. The scooter will be given away during the 2009 Muscogee Nation Festival on Saturday, June 20, 2009 at 7:30 p.m., at the Claude Cox Omniplex.

Tickets for the drawing may be purchased at the Office of Tourism & Recreation and will be sold for $2 each or three for $5. Participants need not be present to win.

For more information, please contact the MCN Office of Tourism & Recreation at (918) 732-7993.

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STAFF
Manager - Lucas Taylor
Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
Graphic Design - Carla Brown
Graphic Design - Crystal Lumpkin
Graphic Design - Tyler Roberds
Advertising - Ruth Bible
Senior Writer - Angel Ellis
Feature Writer - Gerald Wofford
Sports Writer - Jason Salsman
Reporter - Starla Bush
Reporter - Joshua Slane
Circulation - Wilma Murphy

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Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Muscogee Nation Festival preview

• From frybread to Brandy, this year's event is sure to please

Continued from Page 1

As with any major event, parking can be complex. Therefore, there will be SHUTTLE PARKING again this year. Go to the MCN Housing Division parking or to the Mound Parking on the main Complex grounds. Shuttles are scheduled to run every 20 minutes beginning after 5 p.m. on Friday, June 19 & after noon on Saturday, June 20. Contact Ben Chaney at (918)732-7907 for more information.

This year we are asking everyone to get involved in recycling and placing trash in its proper place…..Keep Native Land Clean. Go Green!

Need more information? Go to themuscogeecreeknation.com and get a listing of events and contact information.

Let us know if you want to become a volunteer and get a free tee shirt or if you want, become a sponsor at any amount. Sponsorship levels span from an in-kind service to whatever amount you wish.

This year marks the 35th anniversary of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival in Okmulgee, Okla. Renowned for exciting entertainment and numerous activities, the Festival is host to thousands of spectators and participants during the first three weekends in June. This year's theme, "From the Same Fire," refers to the Creator's gift of fire given to the Muscogee people when the Earth was new.

June 12-13, the slow-pitch softball tournament bats off at the Claude Cox Omniplex just west of the intersection of Highway 75 and Loop 56 in Okmulgee, Okla. This weekend includes arts and crafts and food vendors throughout the day and live entertainment featuring Tulsa band Imzadi at 7 p.m. Saturday evening.

The official Festival weekend kicks off with a ceremonial Stomp Dance and free feed on Thurs., June 18 at 6 p.m., on the campus of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex on the southeast corner of the intersection of Highway 75 and Loop 56 in Okmulgee, Okla. Festival activities accelerate through June 21 at the Claude Cox Omniplex and include an IPRA rodeo; concerts featuring Brandy, Joe Diffie, and James Otto; sports tournaments; arts and crafts; food vendors; a parade through historic downtown Okmulgee; children's activities and much more. All events are FREE and everyone is welcome.

Join us for this momentous gathering and enjoy meeting old friends and new acquaintances. Place a float in the parade and advertise your program or company.

For a complete listing of times, events and contacts, visit the Festival Event section of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's official website www.themuscogeecreeknation.com.

Because the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is a large contributor to the economy of Oklahoma, we feel that the MCN Festival is the perfect opportunity for everyone to come together and celebrate our efforts in making positive accomplishments throughout the year. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Committee invites any and all parties interested in joining the celebration to become a sponsor of the MCN Festival. Sponsorships are available at several different levels and the Festival Committee is open to developing one that fits best with your company or organization.

For more information or to become a sponsor, please contact The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Tourism & Recreation at (918) 732-7993 or toll-free at (800) 482-1979. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is a tribal government located in east central Oklahoma. The Creek Nation boundary includes eleven counties: Creek, Hughes (Tukvpvtce), Mayes, McIntosh, Muskogee, Okfuskee, Okmulgee, Rogers, Seminole, Tulsa and Wagoner.

Mvto! Vwvs! Yehecvs!

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The Festival Stompdance will be Thursday, June 18 at the Mound Building South Lawn at 6 p.m

The Festival Parade—Okmulgee Main Street (6th Street), Downtown Okmulgee 10 a.m. (Note new time)

Softball- Slow pitch begines Friday, June 12 at 5:00p.m. Fast pitch begines Friday, 6:00 p.m.

The Festival Child Safety Seat Check, Saturday June 20 at 9:00 a.m.

The Festival Hymn Singing will take place Saturday, June 20 from 1-4 p.m.

Living Legends ceremony is scheduled for Firday, June 19 from 5:30 to 7:00 pm.

The Festival Rodeo will be Friday June 19, from 7 to 9pm and Saturday, June 20 at the Bob Airington Arena at 9 p.m.

The Festival Horseshoe Tournament will be Saturday, June 20 at 8am.

Photos taken by MCN Communications Department

THE FAREWELL SPEECH BY ELIZABETH GRAY

MISS MUSCOGEE NATION 2008-09

by Elizabeth Gray

Miss Muscogee Nation 2008-09

Hensci! Eston Ko? Tonight has been a surreal experience that's filled me with an array of emotions. To think, a year ago, I was standing backstage unknowing of the wonderfully enriching journey awaiting me. Now I present myself before everyone in order to express my parting thoughts on being Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

My initial feeling is gratefulness. I believe it's best to convey my gratitude by acknowledging the people that have made this brilliant opportunity bestowed upon me possible.

Chief A.D. Ellis was re-elected November 3rd, 2007. That date was the reiteration of the Muscogee people's faith in a man that has proved strength and wisdom as their leader. I was honored during the festival to have been accompanied and introduced by Chief A.D. Ellis and I cherish the support of the leader of our Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The National Council consists of members representing counties in Muscogee (Creek) Nation. They meet every month to make the decisions that impact every aspect of the Creek Nation. I admire their decision to approve the continuation and enhancement of the Miss Muscogee Nation Scholarship Pageant.

There are a select few that congregate, examine, evaluate, and determine every detail of the scholarship pageant and care of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation royalty. These exceptional people form the committee and also the volunteers that put their precious time into, what for me has been, the proudest position a young Creek woman, like myself, can hold.

Miss Virginia Thomas is a marvelous Muscogee (Creek) woman and a keen teacher that opened my awareness in being, as Chebon Gouge described, a keeper of a nation. The words of Miss Virginia stating how a princess is not to just be served but to serve the people echoes within my memory and those words will remain in my character. I've done my best to accomplish the standards and hope that my reign has been one of pride.

In Matthew 7:24, Jesus explains how a wise man built his house on the rock so when the flood came blowing and beating the house stood solid because it was founded on the rock. My foundation is my mother, Regina Tarpalechee, who has raised and influenced me to be the strong young woman that stands before you today. She has given to me the internal flame that ignites my ambition, independence, and loyalty to the ones that I love. She has been the messenger of responsibility and the guide during my voyage of the past year. I will carry my appreciation for everyone with me in my heart forever.

The first big event of my reign was during the festival. It was during this time I got to know my fellow royalty. They were wonderful and I'm so proud of Jaycee, Cierra, Tayah, Suntilla, and Delouis for making this past year a lovely experience. Marcus Proctor was a spectacular chaperone and took all the royalty under his wing, I'd like to thank him for taking such good care of all of us. Also, I would like to thank the Council House Museum for all the gifts and support they have given.

I've gained so many experiences that I will forever treasure. Going to the other Indian nations' pageants allowed me to glimpse into a culture unfamiliar, while simultaneously representing my nation.

In October, I was invited to the Ocmulgee Mounds where the Creek people are originally from. The most breath taking moment was standing on the highest mound and soaking in the landscape that once was inhabited by our ancestors. The most peculiar thing was all the school children staring in amazement at a "real Indian princess". I'm glad to have given them a glimpse of what their state has come from.

In April, I was honored with the privilege to fly to Albuquerque, NM to attend the Miss Indian World pageant and pow wow during the Gathering of the Nations. The whirlwind of different Indian tribes passed before me. I heard of tribes I was unaware existed, it was a delight to know of them so I could later brag to my hvtke friends that not all Indians live in Oklahoma, like they seem to believe. I was happy to have represented the Muscogee (Creek) Nation during the Gathering of the Nations.

I feel like I've grown from a shy little girl to a stronger woman in this past year and a lot of the growth is due to being Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation. I'm appreciative of everything that have been given to me and feel like I've earned such a wonderful thing. This year was a hard one in my personal life but I am an undenying optimist with a drive that hasn't let life's speed bumps slow down my ambition to be the best person I can be. I'd like my final words to be a quote from Margaret Mead that is inspiring to me, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

Mvto

WELCOME ROYALTY 2009

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ROYALTY

Jr. Miss Muscogee (Creek) N

MNN/*Mallory Bible*

Pictured above are 2009-2010 Miss Muscoge (Creek) Nation Rochell Werito and Junior Miss Leah Scott.

MNN/*Mallory Bible*

Pictured above are 2009-2010 winners for the Little Miss Divisions I, Jaylie Dry, Division II Talia Buckley and Division III, Kyla LaMere.

MNN/*Mallory Bible*

Pictured above is the 2009-2010 Senior Miss Muscogee Nation Bonnie Gibson.

GRADUATION 2009

June 2009

Sarah Adcock

School: Baylor University
Parent: Regina Adcock
Grandparents: the late Quency and Shirley Norman
Great Grandparents: the late Eugene Montgomery and the late Irene Wright
Great Great Grandparents: the late Charles Frederick and the late Sarah Wright
Activities: July of 2007, she excavated at Tel Gezer, an Iron Age city in central Israel. In 2008, she participated in digs in Central Texas and the Texas Panhandle, where she is returning again this summer.
Awards: graduated summa cum laude, B.A. in Archaeology and English, in the spring of 2008, she was chosen by her professors as the outstanding archaeology student at Baylor, and, at the beginning of December, she was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest and most prestigious honor society. Sarah is also a member of Lambda Alpha, the national anthropology honor society, and Sigma Tau Delta, the international English honor society and she was one of only six students in the graduating class to maintain a 4.0 grade point average
Future Plans: Now that she has completed her degree at Baylor, she intends to pursue a career in archaeology. Along with one of her professors at Baylor, Sarah is currently developing an innovative project focused on exploring the origins of Near Eastern metallurgy, and, in April, she presented the first results of this study at the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in Atlanta. Sarah plans to continue and expand this project as part of her doctoral research, which she will begin in the fall. After being accepted at five graduate programs, including the University of Michigan and Stanford University, Sarah has chosen to attend the University of Chicago. In May of 2009, she became a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow.

Aaron Webster Ross-Chalakee

School: Manzano High
Parents: Jeffrey Chalakee and Christopher Leyba
Grandparents: Billy and the late Mollie Chalakee and Ellen and Morris Gatewood
Great Grandparents: Webster Chalakee and Martha (Bird) Chalakee
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town: Thlopthlocco
Awards: Lettered in Guitar
Future Plans: He plans to attend college in the fall at either the University of New Mexico, New Mexico State University, Oklahoma State University, or Ft.Lewis College in Durango, Colorado. He plans to either study Teacher Education or Culinary Arts.

Jeffrey Todd Chalakee

School: University of New Mexico
Parents: Billy and the late Mollie Chalakee
Grandparents: Manuel Madrid and Elsie Madrid Lopez Hernandez, Webster Chalakee and Martha Bird Chalakee
Great Grandparents: Thomas and Mulsie Chalakee
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town: Thlopthlocco
Activities: In 2006 he worked as a teacher while obtaining his Bachelors. He is currently a Social Studies, Language Arts and Native American Studies teacher at La Academia de Esperanza in Albuquerque, New Mexico.
Awards: On Dec 19, 2008 he received his Masters of Arts in Special Education with a GPA of 3.89. He also received his instructor certification for the Adaptive Ski Program, a winter sports program for individuals with special needs.

Courtney Collins

School: Oklahoma State University
Parents: Gary and Vicki Collins
Awards: Academic Excellance scholarship, Dean's Honor Roll, and President's Honor Roll.

Sukey Raye Deere

School: Sequoyah High
Parents: Lisa Deere and Sam Deere
Grandparents: Kenneth and Joann Deere and Phillip and Edna Deere
Great Grandparents: Eli and Melissie (Long) Deer and John and Fannie (Berryhill) Chalakee, Woodrow and Lizzie (Smith) Gouge and Raymond and Fannie (Harjo) Deere
Clan: Wind

Tribal Town: Kialegee
Awards: National Honor Society - four years, Muscogee (Creek) Challenge Bowl team captain, varsity basketball - three years, 2006 and 2007 state basketball champion, 2008 state basketball runner-up and 2007 Junior Miss runner-up of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Future Plans: Attend Seminole College studying in Elementary Education/Basketball Coach.

Michael A. Factor

School: Morris High
Parents: Sallie and Jose Ortiz
Grandparents: Nora (Tulsa) Factor and the late Edmond Factor
Great Grandparents: the late Dave and Sallie (King) Tulsa and the late Lillie and Ina (Harjo) Factor
Clan: Tiger
Tribal Town: Arbeka
Activites: a member of Business Partners of America and Basketbell
Awards: Prinicipal Honor Rool, National Technical Honor Society
Future Plans: Attending OSU-Okmulgee to complete his Associates in Web Development and then to attend a four year college/ university for a Bachelors Degree.

Joanna Marie Fleetwood

School: Rogers State
Parents: Randall and Janetha (Jones) Fleetwood
Grandparents: the late Carl Morris and Alyce Marie Morrison Fleetwood and Wayne and Thelma Reese Jones
Great Grandparents: are the late Andrew and Lillie Bruner Fleetwood and Felix and Lulu Lewis Morrison and the late Andy and Lillie McClung Reese and Clarence K. and Effie Mason Jones.
Clan: Turtle
Awards: She received her Bachelor's of Science Degree in Business Administration/Human Resources Management
Future Plans: She is currently employed at Claremore Regional Hospital.

Angelica Kyrie Givens

School: Norman North High
Parents: Melody Givens and Keith Johnson
Grandparents: Amy Bruner and Duane Givens and Janice Warrior and Bill Johnson
Great Grandparents: the late Yahola and Leona Givens and Joe and Ida Simpson
Clan: Raccoon
Tribal Town: Kialegee
Church: Journey Church
Activities: Native American Club for two years
Future Plans: She plans to attend OSU Stillwater and study Psychology.

Jarett Givens

School: Okemah High
Parents: Thomas and Wisey Givens
Grandparents: the late Martin and Lucy Givens and Raymond and Paula McGirt and the late Lydia Smith McGirt
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town: Peach Ground
Activities: being involved with community where he was elected the first President of the Okemah Indian Youth Council, playing independent basketball where his team the "Madness in March All-Native Tournament" and he recieved the Jerrod McMillan Hustle Award.
Awards: was the Class 3A State Runner-up for the year 2008-2009. He was named to the North/South All Star team twice, named to the 66 Conference All Conference, and received the Heart, Hustle, and the Hardwood award in his Junior year. Named Okemah High School Co-MVP twice, helped lead the Panthers to a school record of 23 wins in his Junior year and broke the record again in his Senior year with 29 wins. He helped captain the Okemah Panthers to two conference championships, two invitational tournament championships, Class 3A District Championships, Regional Consolation, and lead the Panthers to the Oklahoma State Class 2A Finals. He also played varsity football for four years and the starting quarterback in his last two seasons earning him player of the week five times, All-District selection and the Offensive Player of the Year. He was selected to play in the King Kamehameha Pigskin Classic in Hawaii where his team won the championship game. He was also selected to play Native-State Game in June 12-13 2009 to held in Bartlesville.
Future Plans: He wants to major in Sports Medicine.

Allie Harjo

School: Holland Hall
Parents: Jeff and Shari Harjo
Grandparents: the late Allen and Carmela Harjo
Activities: choreographed dances and written plays performed at regional arts festivals
Awards: graduated as a National Merit Finalist, an Oklahoma Academic Scholar and a member of the International Cum Laude Society. Also was selected to deliver the commencement address. Upon graduation, she received one of the school's top honors, the Alec M. Hill Award. She was also honored with awards for excellence in Biology, Religious Studies, and History.
Future Plans: plans to attend Princeton where she will study Genomics and Global Health. Ultimately, she would like to attend medical school to become an oncologist.

Bethany Rochelle Harley

School: Okmulgee High
Parents: Elizabeth Harley and Alfred Harley Jr.
Grandparents: Pauline Proctor and Sam Proctor, Alfred Harley Sr. and Rosalee Harley
Clan: Beaver
Tribal Town: Tallahassee
Ceremonial Ground: Tallahassee Wyvokaye
Activities: Band, Business Professional of America
Awards: Valedictorian, 4.26 GPA and ranked fourth out of graduating class, National Honor Society, Letter "O" Award, Superintendents Honor Roll and Who's Who Among American Science Students
Future Plans: She plans to attend the University of Oklahoma to major in Biochemistry/Pre-Med. After graduating from OU she plans on going to Medical School to become a Medical Doctor.

Casandra Herrera

School: Oklahoma State University
Parents: Kathleen Coachman
Grandparents: George & Ruby Stewart
Clan: Bird
Awards: Double Major in Associate in Science- Business and Pre-Education Secondary
Future Plans: Interested in obtaining employment
with Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Delana Bear-Hicks

School: Wilson High
Parents: Rachael and Jerry Sumka, and Joe Bear
Grandparents: the late Rev. John Lowe and the late Minnie Lowe and the late Buster Bear and Betty Bear
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town: Thlopthlocco
Activities: cross-country, basketball and softball
Future Plans: to be a mother and wife while attending OSU-Okmulgee in Nursing

Tyler LeeVan Hill

School: Okemah High
Parents: Rhonda Hill and Robert Fixico Sr.
Grandparents: Clarence and Sally Tiger and the Late Van & Sophia Taryole and the Late Oscar & Emma Fixico
Clan: Wind
Ceremonial Ground: Nuyaka
Activities: one year Golf, one year Basketball and three years Baseball. While in school he enlisted in the Army National Guard in February 2008. He completed Basic Training the summer of 2008 and he will be leaving in July 2009 to complete his AIT training at Fort Knox, KY.
Awards: He was Student of the month for February 2009 and also on the Principal Honor Roll the whole school year.
Future Plans: After returning from AIT in October he plans on continuing his education at NSU or ECU.

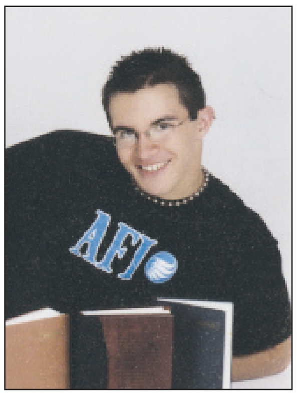
Wayne Johnson

School: University of Missouri-Columbia
Parents: Elizabeth (King) Johnson and the late Wilbourne Johnson
Clan: Turtle
Tribal Town: Okemah
Awards: Doctor of Education (EdD) in Educational Administration and Policy Analysis
Future Plans: I have been a school administrator (high school principal for twenty-five years) and teacher (five years) for a total of 30 years. I have primarily worked with American Indian young people, on and off reservation in public and Bureau of Indian Affairs schools. My desire is to continue to work with American Indian people to help create or define Indian education.

Jennifer Kilian

School: Stigler High
Parents: Brian and Patricia Kilian
Grandparents: Pearl and the late Pod Thomas and Ramona and the late Robert Kilian
Clan: Nokose (Bear)
Tribal Town: Cheyaha
Activities: Cheerleading, Slow Pitch Softball, Fast Pitch Softball and Yearbook.
Awards: Superintendent's Honor Roll,Principal's Honor Roll, NCAAll-American Cheerleader Nominee , Outstanding Achievement in Computer Science I, II, III, Outstanding Achievement in Calculus, Oklahoma Honor Society, 2006-2007 All-American Scholars in Math, 2006-2009 National Mathematics Award, 2007-2008 National Journalism Award, 2008-2009 Who's Who Among American High School Scholars, Senior Who's Who 2009 – Most Academic, Outstanding Academic Achievement Award, President's Outstanding Academic Excellence Award, State of Oklahoma Office of the Governor Gold Career Readiness Certificate, Masonic Essay – 1st Place and Stigler Masonic Lodge Scholarship.
Future Plans: She will attend Eastern Oklahoma State College where she received a Cheerleading Scholarship and the Presidential Leadership Scholarship for academics.

Joseph Len Miller



School: University of Minnesota Duluth

Parents: Perry and Margaret Miller

Grandparents: the late Wayne Miller and Lillian (Byrd) Miller

Great Grandparents: Eddie and Sallie (Scott) Harry

Clan: Wind

Awards: a Bachelor of Applied Science in Psychology and a Bachelor of Arts in Ethical Philosophy

Future Plans: He wants to work for a politically/socially conscious non-profit organization with a focus on advocacy and then try to get into a masters program for either neuroethics or some emphasis on philosophy. He wouldthen like to go to Grad School somewhere in Colorado, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Massachusettts or California.

Ethan Lee Murphy

School: Kiefer High

Parents: Harold and Nancy Murphy

Grandparents: Howard and Nan Ashwood and Pete and the late Callie Murphy

Great Grandparents: the late Ace and the late Lena Lowe Murphy

Clan: Beaver

Awards: Lettered in band and football and also made District Lineman.

Luther J. Pilant III

School: IAIA's College of Contemporary Native Arts

Parents: Luther and Lori Pilant

Awards: President of the Culture Club and received a bachelor of fine arts degree in studio arts

Callie Rice

School: Mt. Juliet High, TN

Parents: Frank & Beth Rice

Grandparents: Eloka Laseta & David Pruet

Great Grandparents: Toka McIntosh Hughes

Awards: has been accepted at Tennessee State University in Nashville, TN for the fall 2009 semester. She graduates with the honor of being a Tennessee Scholar.

Future Plans: She plans on majoring in early childhood education.

Dustin Scott Richard

School: Casa Union High, AZ

Parents: Harold and Alethena (Yvonne) Richard

Grandparents: Frank and Letha Rutherford

Great Grandparents: John and Della Beaver

Clan: Deer

Tribal Town: Weogufkee

Church: Big Cussetah

Andrew David Scarberry

School: McLoud High

Parents: Susan Alexander and Carl Scarbery

Grandparents: Paulette Alexander and David Alexander and Larry and Delores Scarbery

Great Grandparents: Linda Alexander and Andy Alexander

Clan: Bear

Awards: Lettered in Soccer

Future Plans: He plans to pursue his career in Law Enforcement at East Central University in Ada.

Tiffany Treat

School: Beggs High

Parents: Paul and Angie Treat

Grandparent: Cynthia Factor

Clan: Alligator

Tribal Town: Koweta

Activities: Beggs FFA , High School Varsity Softball, ASA Softball League, Math Club, High School Varsity Basketball, Freshman Basketball, FCA four years, National Honor Society, Oklahoma Indian Honor Society, Concurrent Enrollment OSU Okmulgee, Member of Student Council, Class Officer in 2007, Spanish Club, members of Crossroads Baptist Church, Member of Crossroads Youth Group, AP Classes two years, Chemistry, Calculus, Native American Tutor and Mentor, Work Part-Time at Growing Kids Learning Center and Chet's Dairy Freeze, Work Part-Time at Texas Road House, Member of the Oklahoma Team to play softball in Hawaii, Member of the varsity team Tennis Team, member of the 2008-2009 All-State Softball Team.

Awards: Valedictorian, National Honor Society, National Honor Roll, Superintendent's Honor Roll, Ranked Number one in class, FFA Freshman Leadership, FFA Goat Award, FFA Beef Award, FFA Small Animal Award, Indian Honor Society, All-Conference Softball Player, First Freshman to Ever Receive All-Conference Softball player, Outstanding Offensive Player of the Year, Selected to Play on Team Oklahoma in Hawaii for Elite Sports International, 2008 - 2009 All Region Softball Player, New-Comer of the Year for Softball Freshman Year, State Qualifier for Softball two years, State Qualifier for Tennis, Tutor, Okmulgee county 4-H Club.

Future Plans: She plans to attend Oklahoma State University and get my degree in Secondary Math Education.

Micah Wesley, III

School: IAIA's College of Contemporary Native Arts

Parents: Pam Wesley and the late Tillier Wesley, II

Activities: A variety of campus activities and founded the "Humble" artists collective, an off-campus organization that sponsored artist exhibitions and visiting dj's.

Ethan Whitehouse

School: Sapulpa High

Parents: Robin (Felix) Whitehouse and Gene Whitehouse

Grandparents: Ann and the late Kelly Whitehouse and the late Jencie & the late Amos Felix

Activities: Enjoys rodeos, working with horses and spending time with family and friends

Taylor Grant Wind

School: Glenpool High

Parents: Tommy and Robyn (Wind)Tiger and Calvin Scott

Grandparents: Georgia Gentry Wind and Grover and Melodie Wind, the late Doris Davis and the late Curtis Scott

Great Grandparents: the late Jack W. Gentry and Sylvia Sue Gentry and the late Doris Davis an the late Curtis Scott and the late Jessie A. Wind Sr. and the late Lillie Squirrel Wind.

Clan: Bear

Tribal Town: Thlopthlocco

Future Plans: Will be attending Tulsa Community College

If you didn't have time to get you're Sr. announcement in this issue, please feel free to send them in for July's issue of the Muscogee Nation News.

FROM THE SAME FIRE

2009

MUSCOGEE NATION FESTIVAL

Live Entertainment

BRANDY | june 19th

JAMES OTTO | june 20th

JOE DIFFIE | june 20th

June 18 - 21

Entries for the following must be submitted no later than Friday, May 29, 2009

Men's Basketball 3 on 3	**Sprint Williams**	*918-759-1219*
Youth Basketball 3 on 3	**Chad Smith**	*405-487-8864*
Golf Tournament	**Celesta Johnson**	*800-299-9458*
Horseshoes	**Liz Holata**	*918-732-7614*
Parade	**Melinda Deeringwater**	*918-759-4172*
Slow-Pitch Softball Tourn	**George Roach**	*918-458-0577*
Fast-Pitch Softball Tourn	**Skeet Bemo**	*918-344-0798*
Volleyball	**Billie Harjochee**	*918-732-7960*

Contact Rebecca Landsberry by phone at (918) 732 - 7743 or by E-mail at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

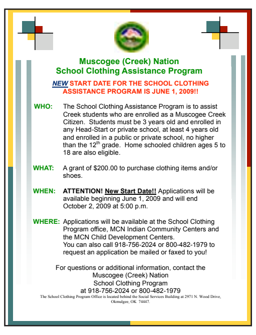
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

River Spirit makes 'great strides' BUSINESS AND GAMING - A5

RIVER SPIRIT
Casino
6/17/09
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
$13,107.00
Thirteen thousand, One hundred, and Seven
"Great Strides Walk"

School Clothing Program now available

PROGRAMS/
NOTICES - A8


Muscogee (Creek) Nation
School Clothing Assistance Program

NEW START DATE FOR THE SCHOOL CLOTHING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IS JUNE 1, 2009!!

WHO: The School Clothing Assistance Program is to assist Creek students who are enrolled as a Muscogee Creek Citizen. Students must be 3 years old and enrolled in any Head-Start or private school, at least 4 years old and enrolled in a public or private school, no higher than the 12th grade. Home schooled children ages 5 to 18 are also eligible.

WHAT: A grant of $200.00 to purchase clothing items and/or shoes.

WHEN: ATTENTION! New Start Date!! Applications will be available beginning June 1, 2009 and will end October 2, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

WHERE: Applications will be available at the School Clothing Program office, MCN Indian Community Centers and the MCN Child Development Centers. You can also call 918-756-2024 or 800-482-1979 to request an application be mailed or faxed to you!

For questions or additional information, contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program at 918-756-2024 or 800-482-1979

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

JULY 2009
Volume 39, Issue 7
SEMI-MONTHLY

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

Festival marked as legendary

• Berryhill and King named 2009 Living Legends

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MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Pictured above are Living Legends recipients traditional bow maker Mike Berryhill (left) with Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation A.D. Ellis along with Dr. James King who has been instrumental in running the College of the Muscogee Nation while serving as interim President.

LEGENDARY LIVES

OKMULGEE — During the 34th annual Muscogee Nation Festival, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis presented his fifth Living Legend award to honorees Dr. James King and Mike Berryhill.

King has been committed to the field of education for many years. He has been involved with community service activities, nominated for numerous awards, one of which was the Distinguished Leadership Recognition Award from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and he was recently inducted into the Okemah Hall of Fame. James continues his work in the field of education by serving as interim president of the College of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, which he was also instrumental in designing and implementing.

Traditional bowmaker Mike Berryhill traces his interest in the ancient art of bowmaking to the exposure he received from his grandfather Joseph Berryhill, whom he watched throughout his boyhood, fashion bows from a single piece of wood, using traditional tools. He has committed himself to revive the interest in them among the Mvskoke Etvlwv.

MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Chief files Writ of Mandamus

• Stay of National Council General Election also filed

by Thompson Gouge
MCN Public Relations

OKMULGEE — On June 12, 2009, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis filed a petition against the Muscogee (Creek) National Council for a Writ of Mandamus and Stay of the General Election with the Supreme Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The Petition is concerning the Special Election that was to be held May 2, 2009 for eligible Creek citizens to vote on the proposed amendments to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution.

A Constitutional Convention was held Nov. 7-8, 2008 allowing eligible voters of the Nation to consider certain amendments, revisions, alterations and additions to the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. During the Convention, the changes were approved by the Constitutional Convention to be placed on ballots for a Special Election.

On February 9, 2009, Chief A.D. Ellis issued a Proclamation calling for the Special Election to be held May 2, 2009 in accordance with Article IX, Section 2(e) of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution. The Election Board of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation then responded to the proclamation with a submission of names of absentee counters as required by Title 19, Section 10-110 of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code and requested an appropriation to conduct the Special Election.

MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Pictured above is Supreme Court Clerk Rosanna Factor stamping the Petition filed by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis against the Muscogee (Creek) National Council regarding the Constitutional Convention Special Election.

In response to the memorandum from the Election Board, the Office of Principal Chief then submitted a proposed resolution (TR 09–016) to have the absentee counters approved as well as the proposed legislation (NCA 09–030) for the appropriation of funds to conduct the election.

Both TR 09–016 and NCA 09–030 were considered by the National Council at the February 28, 2009 meeting and failed to pass by a vote of nine in favor and 13 against and eight in favor and 14 against, respectively.

The Petition states, "Since that time, the National Council has failed and refused to approve absentee counters and to appropriate funds to conduct the Special Election on the proposed constitutional amendments."

It also states, "The Speaker of the National Council suggested to the Principal Chief that the National Council might be willing to approve the absentee counters and appropriate funds for a special election to be held after the General Election of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council Representatives in the Fall of 2009."

SEE PETITION - A4

Bible selected for College of the Muscogee Nation

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — Robert Bible brings his unique experience in education to the position of President of the College of the Muscogee Nation. Bible comes to the college after serving Checotah Public Schools as superintendent since 2001.

Before Bible became President of the College of the Muscogee Nation Bible was responsible for daily operations of the Checotah Public Schools. Bible has been very involved with the college prior to his new position. He previously served on the CMN Board of Regents.

SEE BIBLE - A8

"...the Board, National Council, and tribal government have worked hard and it will be great to see the vision realized."

- Robert F. Bible
President of the College of the Muscogee Nation

California Creeks gather for annual meeting

Media Release
California Muscogee (Creek) Association

LOS ANGELES, Cali., — All Creek citizens are invited to join the California Muscogee (Creek) Association for the summer gathering at the 41st annual Southern California Indian Center Pow Wow to be held at the Autry National Center at Griffith Park in Los Angeles. The event will take place Aug. 1, 2009 from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m., at 4700 Western Heritage Way, in Los Angeles, Cali.

Please attend and meet Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, along with staff and members of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council.

For more information please contact Eli Grayson by phone at (760) 534-1632, e-mail eligrayson@hotmail.com, or visit the Web site for the center at: http://www.indiancenter.org/ or http://indiancenter.org/pow_wow_info2.html

EXECUTIVE A2

Legal Fees Expense Reports and letters to the Editor

LEGISLATIVE A3

National Council minutes

JUDICIAL A4

Legal Notices: DV 2009-35

BUSINESS/GAMING A5

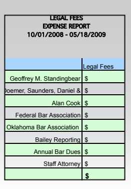
Grand Lake Association names Lowe new Executive Director

HEALTH A6

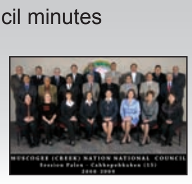
Skin Deep — *Understanding Acne* Part 1

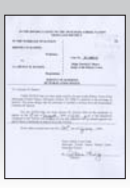
EDUCATION A8

Dallas Independent School District's Indian Education Program


LEGAL FEES
EXPENSE REPORT
10/01/2008 - 05/18/2009

	Legal Fees
Geoffrey M. Standingbear	$
oemer, Saunders, Daniel &	$
Alan Cook	$
Federal Bar Association	$
Oklahoma Bar Association	$
Bailey Reporting	$
Annual Bar Dues	$
Staff Attorney	$
	$


MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION NATIONAL COUNCIL
2008 2009



Communications Department - P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447

Letter to the Editor

Citizen voices concerns with tribal government

OKMULGEE — Although an absentee for many years I always thought I knew my tribe. Every month I studied our tribal newspaper from cover to cover and believed all the articles, stories, reports, announcements; rejoiced at the programs, services, businesses, buildings; was thrilled to read about jobs, health care, dental care, clothes for children, education, help for the drug and alcohol addicted, free homes for the elderly and the disabled, housing for all, and on, and on.

October 7, 2007 I got back home to Oklahoma. It's wonderful living among my tribal people again. It's been 19 months, however, of one shock after another discovering that the image of our tribal government presented by the tribal newspaper, and the Public Relations office of the Principal Chief, is just that, an image.

Living in the capitol city of Creek Nation I've been seeing, hearing, being told, and experiencing, the reality of my tribal government. It isn't pretty-it isn't fair to all citizens, some of it's possibly illegal, there's no transparency or accountability, millions of dollars are missing from CN Tulsa Casino (2008 MAY MNN A-2) with no investigation, the Constitution is violated at will and with impunity, and a strong under-current of discrimination and intimidation exists. I've met citizens who are afraid to submit written grievances to the Complex. I've met citizens who are afraid of the Principal Chief, Lighthorse, and our District Court Judge. How sad, how shameful. Our ancestors lived in fear of the U.S. Government for hundreds of years, and in this 21st century some of their descendants live in fear of some of our own home-grown Creek Indian elected and appointed officials! This should enrage all Creek citizens, but Ellis has so successfully and shamelessly divided our Nation that many couldn't care less. You can bet your boots that the spirits of our ancestors are outraged by this!

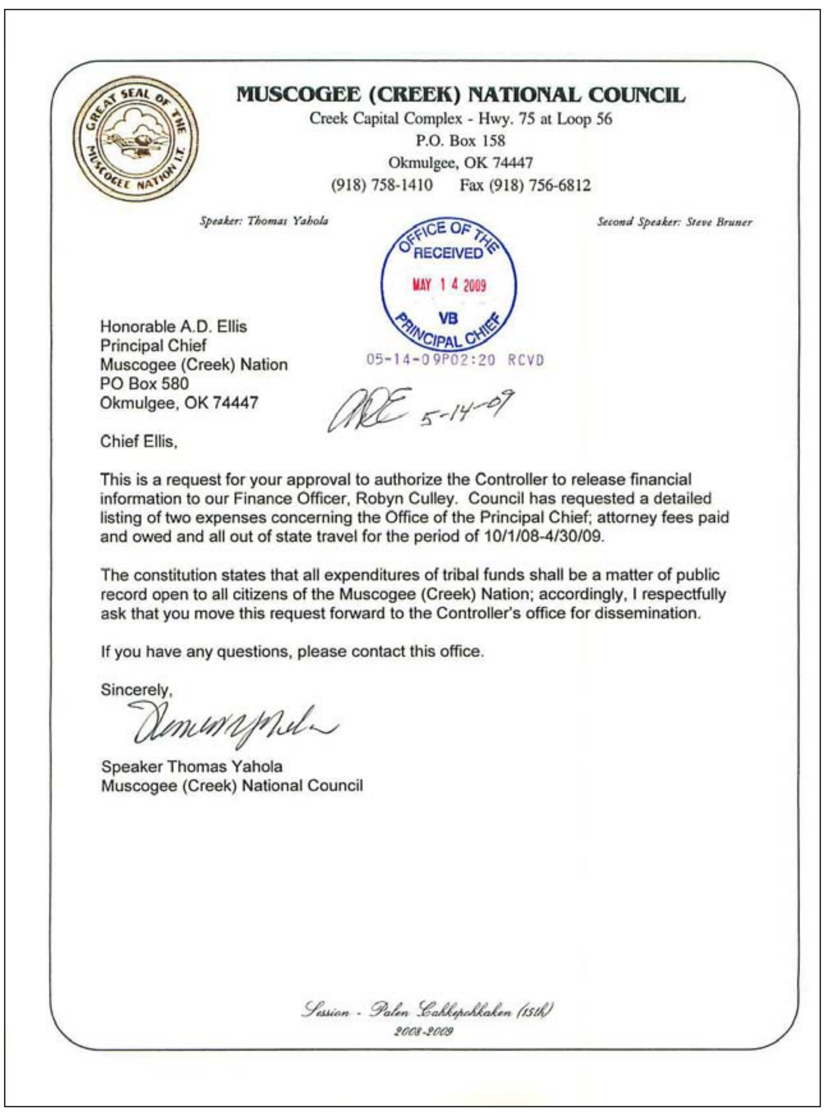
If our court system was an elected one I would have months ago filed against Ellis for discrimination, and for behavior detrimental to me and my Nation's peace and well-being. His on-going feud with National Council members who won't swallow his my-way-or-the-highway attitude and demands is disgraceful. Only those members who follow him like ducklings escape his wrath, his sharp tongue, allegations, and public degrading in the Muscogee Nation News. He blames others for problems, for goof-ups, instead of trying to straighten them out, and citizens bear the consequences.

He brags about a housing system that's an embarrassment! In HUD and Triba1-HUD housing for 25 years, I know an archaic system when I see one. Citizens waiting years for homes, or rehab. Citizens waiting months, even years for rentals. The longest I'd ever waited was three months until I got back home to my own tribe! For 19 months I've been paying sky-high market-rent for an apt., with no laundry hook-ups, while Creek apts., and houses sit empty needing repairs. HUD pays for repairs; what happened to the subsidy funds?

I'm not the only Creek citizen in this left-out situation in Okmulgee, nor am I the oldest at 83. Within walking distance is a 91-year-old Creek lady paying higher market rent than I am. Where's her free alternative home? She's been here all her life, why hasn't Mr. Ellis and his Okmulgee District Reps gone to bat for her?

Multiple programs, businesses, are trumpeted in the tribal newspaper, but nothing is said when some don't pan out, don't work to benefit citizens, go to pot and lose millions of tribal funds. That's why the absentee vote is courted vigorously; they don't know what's going on. They, as did I as an absentee, believe the image they read about in the MNN that has no investigative reporters, that is under the jurisdiction of the Executive Branch and is not a free press. They have to move back here to discover the truth, the reality of their tribal government.

Mrs. Mary L. Black
MCNC 28931, Okmulgee



MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL
Creek Capital Complex - Hwy. 75 at Loop 56
P.O. Box 158
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 758-1410 Fax (918) 756-6812

Speaker: Thomas Yahola *Second Speaker: Steve Bruner*

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF
RECEIVED
MAY 14 2009
VB
05-14-09P02:20 RCVD

ADE 5-14-09

Honorable A.D. Ellis
Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
PO Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447

Chief Ellis,

This is a request for your approval to authorize the Controller to release financial information to our Finance Officer, Robyn Culley. Council has requested a detailed listing of two expenses concerning the Office of the Principal Chief; attorney fees paid and owed and all out of state travel for the period of 10/1/08-4/30/09.

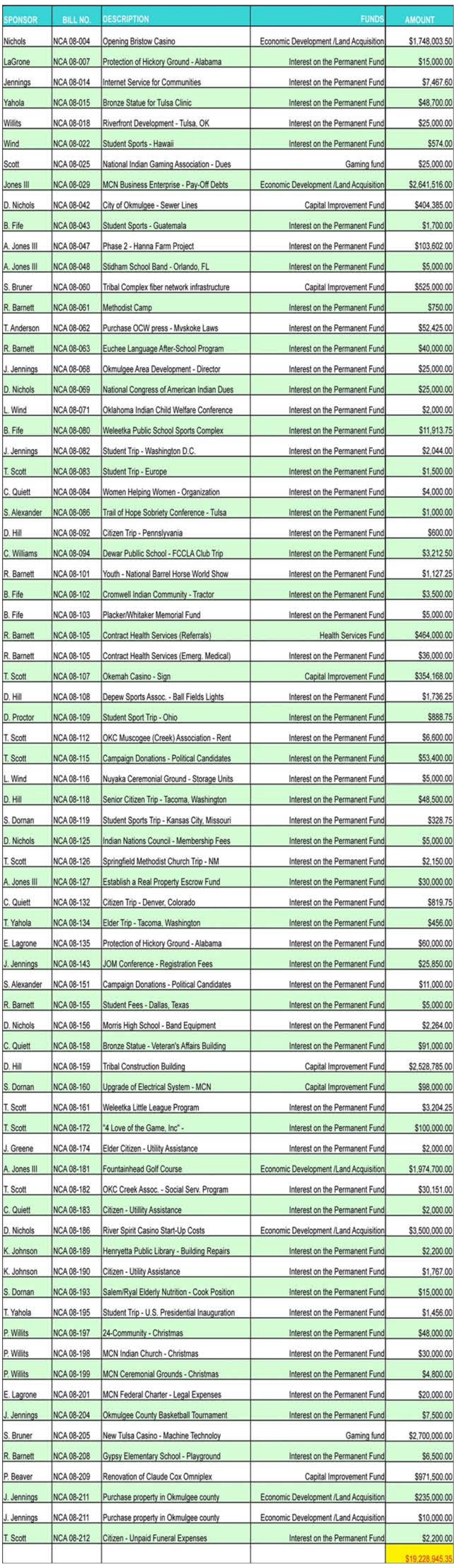
The constitution states that all expenditures of tribal funds shall be a matter of public record open to all citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; accordingly, I respectfully ask that you move this request forward to the Controller's office for dissemination.

If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Speaker Thomas Yahola
Muscogee (Creek) National Council

Session - Palen Cahkepohkaken (15th)
2008-2009



SPONSOR	BILL NO.	DESCRIPTION	FUNDS	AMOUNT
Nichols	NCA 08-004	Opening Bristow Casino	Economic Development /Land Acquisition	$1,748,003.50
LaGrone	NCA 08-007	Protection of Hickory Ground - Alabama	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$15,000.00
Jennings	NCA 08-014	Internet Service for Communities	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$7,467.60
Yahola	NCA 08-015	Bronze Statue for Tulsa Clinic	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$48,700.00
Willits	NCA 08-018	Riverfront Development - Tulsa, OK	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$25,000.00
Wind	NCA 08-022	Student Sports - Hawaii	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$574.00
Scott	NCA 08-025	National Indian Gaming Association - Dues	Gaming fund	$25,000.00
Jones III	NCA 08-029	MCN Business Enterprise - Pay-Off Debts	Economic Development /Land Acquisition	$2,641,516.00
D. Nichols	NCA 08-042	City of Okmulgee - Sewer Lines	Capital Improvement Fund	$404,385.00
B. Fife	NCA 08-043	Student Sports - Guatemala	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$1,700.00
A. Jones III	NCA 08-047	Phase 2 - Hanna Farm Project	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$103,602.00
A. Jones III	NCA 08-048	Stidham School Band - Orlando, FL	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$5,000.00
S. Bruner	NCA 08-060	Tribal Complex fiber network infrastructure	Capital Improvement Fund	$525,000.00
R. Barnett	NCA 08-061	Methodist Camp	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$750.00
T. Anderson	NCA 08-062	Purchase OCW press - Mvskoke Laws	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$52,425.00
R. Barnett	NCA 08-063	Euchee Language After-School Program	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$40,000.00
J. Jennings	NCA 08-068	Okmulgee Area Development - Director	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$25,000.00
D. Nichols	NCA 08-069	National Congress of American Indian Dues	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$25,000.00
L. Wind	NCA 08-071	Oklahoma Indian Child Welfare Conference	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$2,000.00
B. Fife	NCA 08-080	Weleetka Public School Sports Complex	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$11,913.75
J. Jennings	NCA 08-082	Student Trip - Washington D.C.	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$2,044.00
T. Scott	NCA 08-083	Student Trip - Europe	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$1,500.00
C. Quiett	NCA 08-084	Women Helping Women - Organization	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$4,000.00
S. Alexander	NCA 08-086	Trail of Hope Sobriety Conference - Tulsa	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$1,000.00
D. Hill	NCA 08-092	Citizen Trip - Pennslyvania	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$600.00
C. Williams	NCA 08-094	Dewar Publlic School - FCCLA Club Trip	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$3,212.50
R. Barnett	NCA 08-101	Youth - National Barrel Horse World Show	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$1,127.25
B. Fife	NCA 08-102	Cromwell Indian Community - Tractor	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$3,500.00
B. Fife	NCA 08-103	Placker/Whitaker Memorial Fund	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$5,000.00
R. Barnett	NCA 08-105	Contract Health Services (Referrals)	Health Services Fund	$464,000.00
R. Barnett	NCA 08-105	Contract Health Services (Emerg. Medical)	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$36,000.00
T. Scott	NCA 08-107	Okemah Casino - Sign	Capital Improvement Fund	$354,168.00
D. Hill	NCA 08-108	Depew Sports Assoc. - Ball Fields Lights	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$1,736.25
D. Proctor	NCA 08-109	Student Sport Trip - Ohio	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$888.75
T. Scott	NCA 08-112	OKC Muscogee (Creek) Association - Rent	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$6,600.00
T. Scott	NCA 08-115	Campaign Donations - Political Candidates	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$53,400.00
L. Wind	NCA 08-116	Nuyaka Ceremonial Ground - Storage Units	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$5,000.00
D. Hill	NCA 08-118	Senior Citizen Trip - Tacoma, Washington	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$48,500.00
S. Dornan	NCA 08-119	Student Sports Trip - Kansas City, Missouri	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$328.75
D. Nichols	NCA 08-125	Indian Nations Council - Membership Fees	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$5,000.00
T. Scott	NCA 08-126	Springfield Methodist Church Trip - NM	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$2,150.00
A. Jones III	NCA 08-127	Establish a Real Property Escrow Fund	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$30,000.00
C. Quiett	NCA 08-132	Citizen Trip - Denver, Colorado	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$819.75
T. Yahola	NCA 08-134	Elder Trip - Tacoma, Washington	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$456.00
E. Lagrone	NCA 08-135	Protection of Hickory Ground - Alabama	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$60,000.00
J. Jennings	NCA 08-143	JOM Conference - Registration Fees	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$25,850.00
S. Alexander	NCA 08-151	Campaign Donations - Political Candidates	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$11,000.00
R. Barnett	NCA 08-155	Student Fees - Dallas, Texas	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$5,000.00
D. Nichols	NCA 08-156	Morris High School - Band Equipment	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$2,264.00
C. Quiett	NCA 08-158	Bronze Statue - Veteran's Affairs Building	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$91,000.00
D. Hill	NCA 08-159	Tribal Construction Building	Capital Improvement Fund	$2,528,785.00
S. Dornan	NCA 08-160	Upgrade of Electrical System - MCN	Capital Improvement Fund	$98,000.00
T. Scott	NCA 08-161	Weleetka Little League Program	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$3,204.25
T. Scott	NCA 08-172	"4 Love of the Game, Inc" -	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$100,000.00
J. Greene	NCA 08-174	Elder Citizen - Utility Assistance	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$2,000.00
A. Jones III	NCA 08-181	Fountainhead Golf Course	Economic Development /Land Acquisition	$1,974,700.00
T. Scott	NCA 08-182	OKC Creek Assoc. - Social Serv. Program	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$30,151.00
C. Quiett	NCA 08-183	Citizen - Utillity Assistance	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$2,000.00
D. Nichols	NCA 08-186	River Spirit Casino Start-Up Costs	Economic Development /Land Acquisition	$3,500,000.00
K. Johnson	NCA 08-189	Henryetta Public Library - Building Repairs	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$2,200.00
K. Johnson	NCA 08-190	Citizen - Utility Assistance	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$1,767.00
S. Dornan	NCA 08-193	Salem/Ryal Elderly Nutrition - Cook Position	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$15,000.00
T. Yahola	NCA 08-195	Student Trip - U.S. Presidential Inauguration	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$1,456.00
P. Willits	NCA 08-197	24-Community - Christmas	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$48,000.00
P. Willits	NCA 08-198	MCN Indian Church - Christmas	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$30,000.00
P. Willits	NCA 08-199	MCN Ceremonial Grounds - Christmas	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$4,800.00
E. Lagrone	NCA 08-201	MCN Federal Charter - Legal Expenses	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$20,000.00
J. Jennings	NCA 08-204	Okmulgee County Basketball Tournament	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$7,500.00
S. Bruner	NCA 08-205	New Tulsa Casino - Machine Technoloy	Gaming fund	$2,700,000.00
R. Barnett	NCA 08-208	Gypsy Elementary School - Playground	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$6,500.00
P. Beaver	NCA 08-209	Renovation of Claude Cox Omniplex	Capital Improvement Fund	$971,500.00
J. Jennings	NCA 08-211	Purchase property in Okmulgee county	Economic Development /Land Acquisition	$235,000.00
J. Jennings	NCA 08-211	Purchase property in Okmulgee county	Economic Development /Land Acquisition	$10,000.00
T. Scott	NCA 08-212	Citizen - Unpaid Funeral Expenses	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$2,200.00
				$19,228,945.35

LEGAL FEES
EXPENSE REPORT
10/01/2008 - 05/18/2009

National Council	Legal Fees	
Geoffrey M. Standingbear	$	47,632.44
Doemer, Saunders, Daniel &	$	15,153.90
Alan Cook	$	7,525.00
Federal Bar Association	$	85.00
Oklahoma Bar Association	$	177.50
Bailey Reporting	$	227.65
Annual Bar Dues	$	25.00
Staff Attorney	$	43,914.00
	$	**114,740.49**

LEGAL FEES
EXPENSE REPORT
10/01/2008 - 04/30/2009

Office of the Principal Chief	Legal Fees	
Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gabl	$	31,111.08
Rod Wiemer, P.C.	$	20,139.39
	$	**51,250.47**

TRAVEL - EXPENSE REPORT
10/01/2008 - 05/18/2009

Council Representative	Mileage		Travel	
Ade, Shirlene	$	2,770.90	$	11,111.61
Alexander, Sam	$	2,211.69		
Anderson, Terrie	$	-	$	-
Barnett, Roger	$	4,680.37	$	2,017.65
Beaver, Pete	$	4,304.72	$	1,773.75
Bruner, Steve	$	-	$	3,309.54
Cahwee, Larry	$	1,857.05	$	-
Cleghorn, Ron	$	4,030.97	$	-
Dornan, Selina	$	2,836.51	$	5,294.82
Fife, Bill	$	1,281.67	$	1,728.85
Greene, Johnnie	$	1,351.02	$	3,644.26
Hill, David	$	2,818.03	$	4,178.73
Hufft, Robert	$	930.50	$	-
Jennings, James	$	-	$	-
Johnson, Keeper	$	-	$	-
Jones, Adam	$	1,728.73	$	-
LaGrone, Eddie	$	3,062.29	$	3,117.30
Medina, Kara	$	1,346.81	$	3,316.71
Nichols, David	$	184.87	$	1,614.75
Proctor, Darrell	$	2,352.43	$	-
Quiett, Cherrah	$	820.20	$	5,643.81
Scott, Travis	$	2,258.96	$	-
Tecumseh, Carmin	$	-	$	250.00
Willits, Paula	$	1,906.61	$	4,103.57
Wind, Lena	$	1,053.45	$	1,041.78
Yahola, Thomas	$	156.20	$	1,985.76
Legislative Clerk			$	2,270.54
Legislative Clerk	$	-	$	2,006.19
Legislative Clerk	$	-	$	1,639.77
Legislative Clerk	$	-	$	-
Legislative Research Specialist	$	-	$	-
Legislative Research Assist.	$	49.14	$	5,971.46
Liaison/Writer	$	-	$	2,043.39
Office Assistant	$	89.65		
Receptionist			$	1,551.69
Council Secretary			$	3,274.00
Staff Attorney	$	202.60	$	8,785.88
Miscellaneous			$	457.10
Credit			$	(3,828.95)

SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS
- 2009 -

SPONSOR	BILL NO.	DESCRIPTION	FUNDS	AMOUNT
Cahwee	NCA 09-008	Sapulpa Park - Swimming Pool	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$50,000.00
Jennings	NCA 09-010	Creek Communities - Internet Service	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$7,467.60
Hill	NCA 09-013	Depew Public Schools - Defibrillators	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$2,204.09
Dornan	NCA 09-015	Youth Conference - Norman, OK	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$2,075.00
Anderson	NCA 09-016	Symposium - Okmulgee, OK	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$21,300.00
Alexander	NCA 09-018	Pow-Wow - Tulsa, OK	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$500.00
Ade	NCA 09-019	Elder Citizen - Washer & Dryer	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$821.23
Tecumseh	NCA 09-024	Stickball Tournament - Norman, OK	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$2,000.00
Cahwee	NCA 09-029	Euchee After-School Program - Sapulpa	Gaming	$60,000.00
Cahwee	NCA 09-033	Kellyville Public Schools - Gymnasium	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$5,270.00
Jones III	NCA 09-034	Student Trip - France	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$866.75
Dornan	NCA 09-039	Portrait Exhibit - Oklahoma City, OK	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$3,500.00
Barnett	NCA 09-043	Hanna Farm Project	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$82,389.00
Jennings	NCA 09-045	Twin Hills School - Books & Supplies	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$10,000.00
Bruner	NCA 09-047	Tulsa Casino Parking Lot	Capital Improvement Fund	$3,525,960.00
Medina	NCA 09-052	Haskell College - Indian Club	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$10,000.00
Tecumseh	NCA 09-056	Dewar Public Schools - Football field lights	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$12,134.50
Barnett	NCA 09-057	Native Language Fair - Norman, OK	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$1,500.00
Dornan	NCA 09-059	Student Trip - England & France	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$2,819.50
Tecumseh	NCA 09-060	Student Trip - Washington, DC	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$844.00
Alexander	NCA 09-062	Purchase 62 acres - Tulsa, OK	Economic Development/Land Acquisition	$2,559,900.00
Wind	NCA 09-064	Citizen - Medical Supplies	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$2,000.00
Barnett	NCA 09-068	Medical Alert Device System - Agreement	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$30,000.00
Jennings	NCA 09-069	Student Conference - Washington, DC	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$1,291.50
Willits	NCA 09-072	Statue for Oklahoma City Museum	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$48,000.00
Hill	NCA 09-073	Purchase .5 acre - Bristow, OK	Economic Development/Land Acquisition	$92,000.00
Tecumseh	NCA 09-082	Dewar Public Schools - FCCLA Club Trip	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$3,775.00
Tecumseh	NCA 09-084	Duck Creek Community - Operating Exp.	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$102,973.20
Barnett	NCA 09-086	Elder Citizen - Hearing Aids	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$648.82
Jennings	NCA 09-088	MCN College - Construction	Gaming	$2,500,000.00
Wind	NCA 09-089	Okemah Community - Programs & Services	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$252,000.00
Jones III	NCA 09-090	Checotah Community - Prog. & Services	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$229,384.28
Fife	NCA 09-091	Citizen - unpaid funeral expenses	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$2,720.00
Medina	NCA 09-092	Veteran's Event - Creek Nation Festival	Interest on the Permanent Fund	$2,300.00

TRAVEL - EXPENSE REPORT
10/01/2008 - 04/30/2009

Office of the Principal Chief	Travel	
Chief, AD Ellis	$	1,137.94
Executive Secretary	$	-
Legislative Research Specialist	$	1,154.93
Secretary II	$	-
Second Chief	$	4,054.53
Assistant to the Second Chief	$	2,654.36
Executive Secretary	$	199.00
	$	**9,200.76**

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION NATIONAL COUNCIL
Session Palen - Cahkepohkaken (15)
2008-2009

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE **MAY 16, REGULAR SESSION**.

MAY 16, REGULAR SESSION

REPRESENTATIVE **JAMES JENNINGS** WAS EXCUSED. REPRESENTATIVE **SHIRLENE ADE** WAS EXCUSED AT HER DISCRETION. REPRESENTATIVE **KARA MEDINA** WAS ABSENT.

VETO MESSAGE:

• MOTION TO OVER-RIDE THE VETO FAILED (24-0-0) NCA 09-067, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING TITLE 11, §4-301, D., ENTITLED “MINIMUM AND CONDITIONS” RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-1-0) NCR 09-004, A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER TO EXECUTE A CONSULTANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NATIONAL COUNCIL, MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND **STEPHEN KERN** SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **A. JONES III; C. TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS; S. JAYNE-DORNAN**

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (14-9-0) TR 09-019, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF MR. **EDWIN MCLEMORE** TO SERVE AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF HEALTH SPONSOR: **DAVID NICHOLS**; CO-SPONSOR: **THOMAS YAHOLA**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **LARRY CAHWEE, ROGER BARNETT, SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, BILL FIFE, SHIRLENE ADE, RON CLEGHORN** AND **SAM ALEXANDER**.

REPRESENTATIVE **CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-1-0) TR 09-028, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE MUSCOGEE NATION BUSINESS ENTERPRISE TO EXECUTE THE ATTORNEY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MUSCOGEE NATION BUSINESS ENTERPRISE AND BARROW & GRIMM, P.C. SPONSOR: **STEVE BRUNER**

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **RON CLEGHORN**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (20-3-0) TR 09-034, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION PERMITTING THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE OCMULGEE NATIONAL MONUMENT FACILITY AT MACON, GEORGIA CONTINUED CONDITIONAL USE OF SPECIFIC ANCESTRAL MUSCOGEAN ASSOCIATED FUNERARY OBJECTS WITHIN ITS ENHANCED MUSEUM EXHIBIT SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **BILL FIFE, KEEPER JOHNSON** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (19-4-0) TR 09-035, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY LOCATED IN CREEK COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **DAVID HILL**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **ADAM JONES III, BILL FIFE, RON CLEGHORN** AND **SAM ALEXANDER**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) TR 09-038, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HONORING AND RECOGNIZING **MEL THOMAS**, GENERAL MANAGER OF THE RIVER SPIRIT CASINO AND BESTOWING SPECIAL RECOGNITION UPON HIS EMPLOYEES FOR THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND PARTICIPATION IN THE OPENING OF A NEW HIGH END CASINO SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-1-0) TR 09-040, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A STUDY OF UNIQUE BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES THE FORMATION OF MVSKOKE INC. WILL ENABLE THE NATION TO PURSUE SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) TR 09-041, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN AT&T SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR SMART TRUNK TELEPHONE SERVICE SPONSOR: **THOMAS YAHOLA**

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT(23-0-0) TR 09-042, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION RECOGNIZING THE NEED TO REVIEW AND EVALUATE POSSIBLE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES INCLUDING POTENTIAL INVESTMENTS FOR THE NATION SPONSOR: **STEVE BRUNER**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) TR 09-045, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING TR 08-073 (A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE FESTIVAL COMMITTEE TO ALLOW THE CHARTERED COMMUNITIES, TRIBAL CEREMONIAL GROUNDS, TRADITIONAL CHURCHES AND ENROLLED TRIBAL CITIZENS SET UP A BOOTH (ARTS & CRAFTS, FOOD) AT THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION FESTIVAL FOR A FEE OF NO MORE THAN SIXTY DOLLARS ($60.00) SPONSOR: **LENA WIND**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-1-0) TR 09-046, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION MANDATING THAT THE NATION TEMPORARILY CEASE DOING BUSINESS BY NOT AWARDING ANY NEW CONTRACTS WITH EPPCO BUILDERS UNTIL TRIBAL CITIZENS CONCERNS ARE ADDRESSED AND ADEQUATELY RESOLVED SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **A. JONES III; C. TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS**

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

REPRESENTATIVE **TERRIE ANDERSON** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) TR 09-048, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE REINTEGRATION PROGRAM TO APPLY FOR GRANT OPPORTUNITIES AND AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY GRANT DOCUMENTS SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) NCA 09-008, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE SAPULPA PARK FRIENDS FOUNDATION SPONSOR: **LARRY CAHWEE** ($50,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **LARRY CAHWEE** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (19-3-0) NCA 09-073, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO BE USED TOWARD THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN CREEK COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **DAVID HILL** ($92,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **ADAM JONES III, RON CLEGHORN** AND **SAM ALEXANDER**.

REPRESENTATIVES **LARRY CAHWEE** AND **DAVID NICHOLS** WERE OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 09-075, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF PROCEEDS OF SALE FUNDS FOR ADDITIONAL RENOVATION OF THE WETUMKA SATELLITE OFFICE (HOSPITAL) TO PROVIDE SPACE FOR THE HEADSTART SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**; CO-SPONSOR: **THOMAS YAHOLA** ($200,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) NCA 09-077, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE 2009 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) NCA 09-078, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE FACILITIES/GSA DEPARTMENT - FY 2009 BUDGET SPONSOR: **DAVID NICHOLS** ($45,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-1-0) NCA 09-082, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE DEWAR PUBLIC SCHOOLS FCCLA (FAMILY CAREER AND COMMUNITY LEADERS OF AMERICA) PROGRAM SPONSOR: **CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **S. JAYNE-DORNAN; T. SCOTT** ($3,775.00)

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) NCA 09-083, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO PURCHASE A STANDARD CAB LONG BED PICKUP TRUCK FOR THE TULSA CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY SPONSOR: **ROBERT HUFFT**; CO-SPONSOR: **KARA MEDINA** ($22,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) NCA 09-084, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE DUCK CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY TO FUND THE REMAINING FISCAL YEAR 2009 BUDGET SPONSOR: **CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS** ($102,973.20)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) NCA 09-085, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AWARD FOR THE PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION OF THE FAMILY WELLNESS, FOOD AND TRADITION SPONSOR: **TERRIE ANDERSON** ($37,825.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-0-0) NCA 09-086, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIAL ASSIST AN ELDER MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN WITH MEDICAL EQUIPMENT SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**; CO-SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT** ($648.82)

• APPROVED TO SEND NCA 09-087 TO THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TO BE DISCUSSED WITH ALL PARTIES (21-2-0) NCA 09-087, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REPEALING NCA 05-292 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CREATING THE POSITION OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS LIAISON/WRITER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL AND AUTHORIZING SPECIAL APPROPRIATION) SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE **PETE BEAVER** AND **TRAVIS SCOTT**.

REPRESENTATIVE **SHIRLENE ADE** WAS EXCUSED.

REPRESENTATIVE **RON CLEGHORN** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (13-8-0) NCA 09-088, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE COLLEGE OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONSTRUCTION PROJECT SPONSOR: **JAMES JENNINGS**; CO-SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON** ($2,500,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DAVID HILL, LARRY CAHWEE, ROGER BARNETT, SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN, EDDIE LAGRONE, BILL FIFE, SAM ALEXANDER** AND **ROBERT HUFFT**.

REPRESENTATIVES **RON CLEGHORN** AND **PETE BEAVER** WERE OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED TO BE RETURNED BACK TO COMMITTEE (16-4-0) NCA 09-089, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE OKEMAH INDIAN COMMUNITY TO FUND THE REMAINING FISCAL YEAR 2009 BUDGET SPONSOR: **LENA WIND** ($444,056.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **ADAM JONES III, LENA WIND, CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

REPRESENTATIVE **RON CLEGHORN** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 09-090, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE CHECOTAH INDIAN COMMUNITY TO FUND THE REMAINING FISCAL YEAR 2009 BUDGET SPONSOR: **SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN** ($229,384.28)

REPRESENTATIVE **RON CLEGHORN** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 09-091, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE UNPAID FUNERAL EXPENSES OF A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE**; CO-SPONSOR: **LENA WIND** ($2,720.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **RON CLEGHORN** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 09-092, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A DONATION TO ASSIST WITH THE “REMEMBERING FALLEN COMRADES” EVENT DURING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION 2009 FESTIVAL SPONSOR: **KARA MEDINA** ($2,300.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **RON CLEGHORN** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• MOTION CARRIED TO RECONSIDER NCA 09-089 (21-0-0)

REPRESENTATIVE **DAVID NICHOLS** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (22-0-0) NCA 09-089.

Special Government Program - Zero Down,
NO MONEY OUT OF YOUR POCKET!!
If you own land or Family will give you land.
BAD CREDIT OK!

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9445 East Admirial Place~ Tulsa, OK 74115 -
pho. (918)832-9888 ~ fax (918)832-7633

100% Government Loan:
Zero down if you own land or still own money on your land. Brick Skirting, Porches, Gutters and landscaping available (site built appearance) BAD CREDIT OK!!
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JUDICIAL

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The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News*** unless other copyrights are shown.

Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Petition

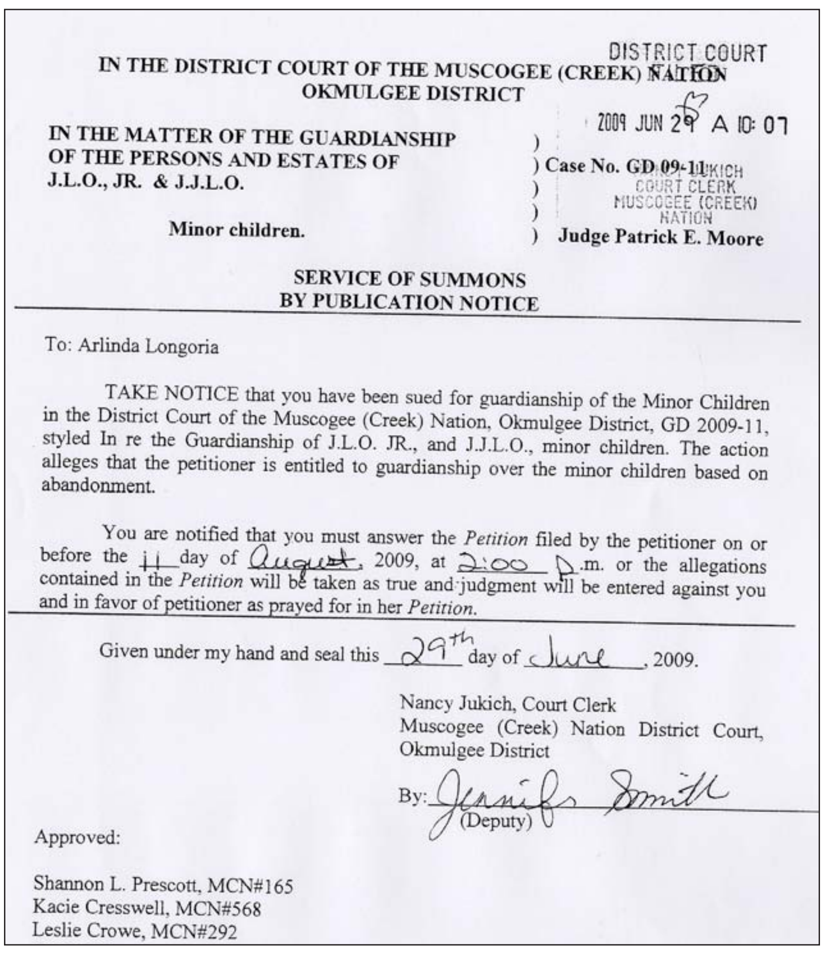
Continued from A1

In the Jurisdictional Facts of the Petition, it is also stated that, "One of the proposed Constitutional amendments seeks to reduce the number of seats on the National Council."

The Motion for Stay of General Election states in the petition that, "The Plaintiff further moves this Court to stay the General Election currently scheduled for September 2009 until such time as the Special Election on the proposed Constitutional amendments can be held. This stay is necessary to ascertain the number of the National Council seats to be elected based upon the approval or rejection of the proposed Constitutional amendment reducing the number of National Council seats. This proposed stay of 60-90 days would still allow the General Election to occur, including primary and runoff elections, prior to the expiration of terms of the current National Council Representatives."

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court issued on order Wednesday, June 17, 2009 requesting briefs to be submitted on or before July 1, 2009 in order for the case to be heard. This is the second petition filed with the Supreme Court regarding the Special Election, following an attempt made by citizen and Constitutional Convention Commissioner Jacob Narcomey earlier this year on April 9, 2009.

Legal Notices



DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 JUN 29 A 10:07
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP OF THE PERSONS AND ESTATES OF J.L.O., JR. & J.J.L.O.

Minor children.

Case No. GD 09-11
Judge Patrick E. Moore

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Arlinda Longoria

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship of the Minor Children in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD 2009-11, styled In re the Guardianship of J.L.O. JR., and J.J.L.O., minor children. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to guardianship over the minor children based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner on or before the 11 day of August, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

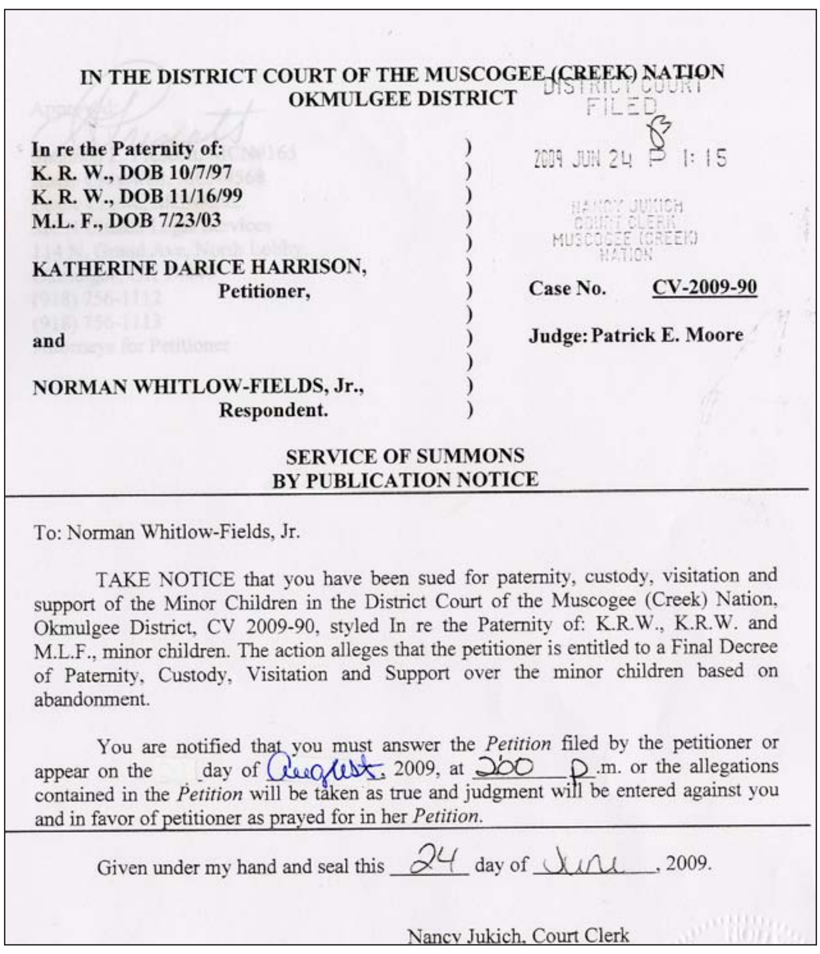
Given under my hand and seal this 29th day of June, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By: Jennifer Smith
(Deputy)

Approved:

Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kacie Cresswell, MCN#568
Leslie Crowe, MCN#292



DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 JUN 24 P 1:15
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the Paternity of:
K. R. W., DOB 10/7/97
K. R. W., DOB 11/16/99
M.L. F., DOB 7/23/03

KATHERINE DARICE HARRISON,
Petitioner,

and

NORMAN WHITLOW-FIELDS, Jr.,
Respondent.

Case No. CV-2009-90
Judge: Patrick E. Moore

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

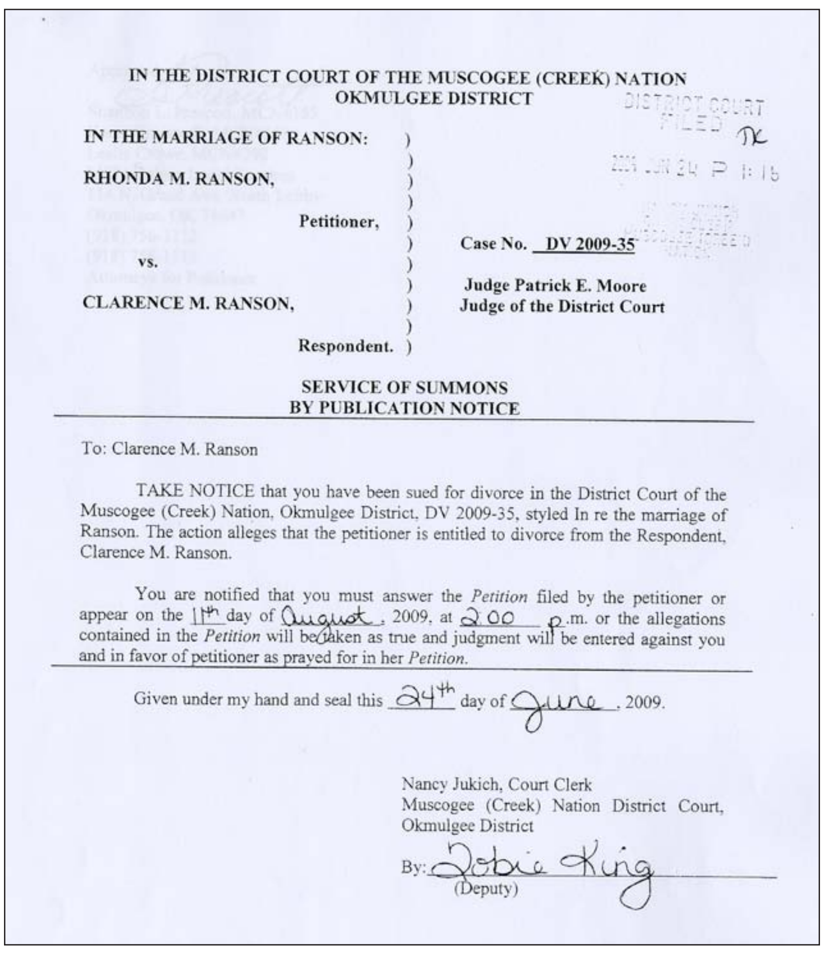
To: Norman Whitlow-Fields, Jr.

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for paternity, custody, visitation and support of the Minor Children in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, CV 2009-90, styled In re the Paternity of: K.R.W., K.R.W. and M.L.F., minor children. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a Final Decree of Paternity, Custody, Visitation and Support over the minor children based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear on the __ day of August, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 24 day of June, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk



DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 JUN 24 P 1:16

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MARRIAGE OF RANSON:

RHONDA M. RANSON,
Petitioner,

vs.

CLARENCE M. RANSON,
Respondent.

Case No. DV 2009-35
Judge Patrick E. Moore
Judge of the District Court

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Clarence M. Ranson

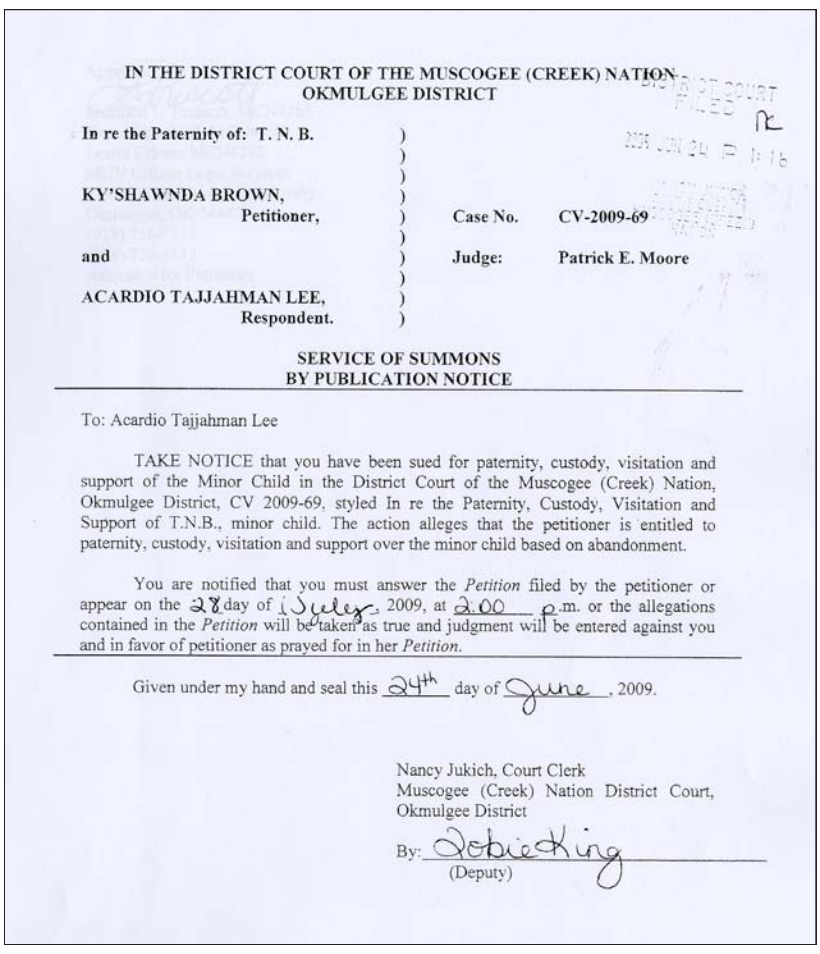
TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, DV 2009-35, styled In re the marriage of Ranson. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to divorce from the Respondent, Clarence M. Ranson.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear on the 11th day of August, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 24th day of June, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By: Jobie King
(Deputy)



DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 JUN 24 P 1:16

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the Paternity of: T. N. B.

KY'SHAWNDA BROWN,
Petitioner,

and

ACARDIO TAJJAHMAN LEE,
Respondent.

Case No. CV-2009-69
Judge: Patrick E. Moore

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Acardio Tajjahman Lee

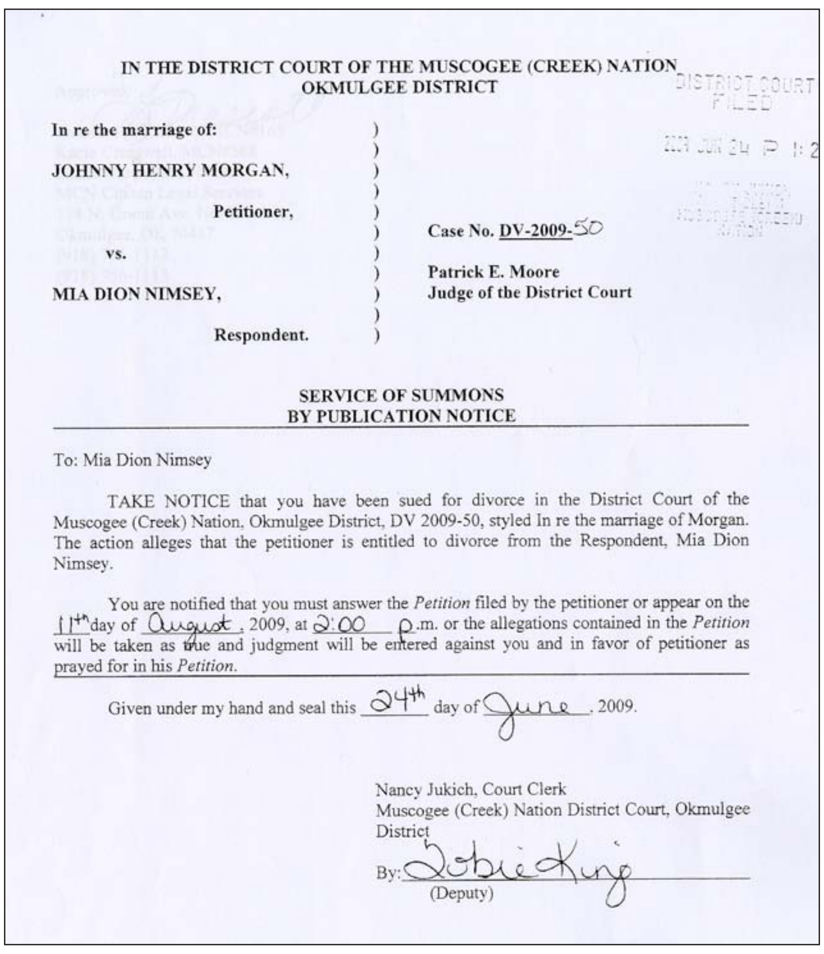
TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for paternity, custody, visitation and support of the Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, CV 2009-69, styled In re the Paternity, Custody, Visitation and Support of T.N.B., minor child. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to paternity, custody, visitation and support over the minor child based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear on the 28 day of July, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 24th day of June, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By: Jobie King
(Deputy)



DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 JUN 24 P 1:2

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the marriage of:

JOHNNY HENRY MORGAN,
Petitioner,

vs.

MIA DION NIMSEY,
Respondent.

Case No. DV-2009-50
Patrick E. Moore
Judge of the District Court

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Mia Dion Nimsey

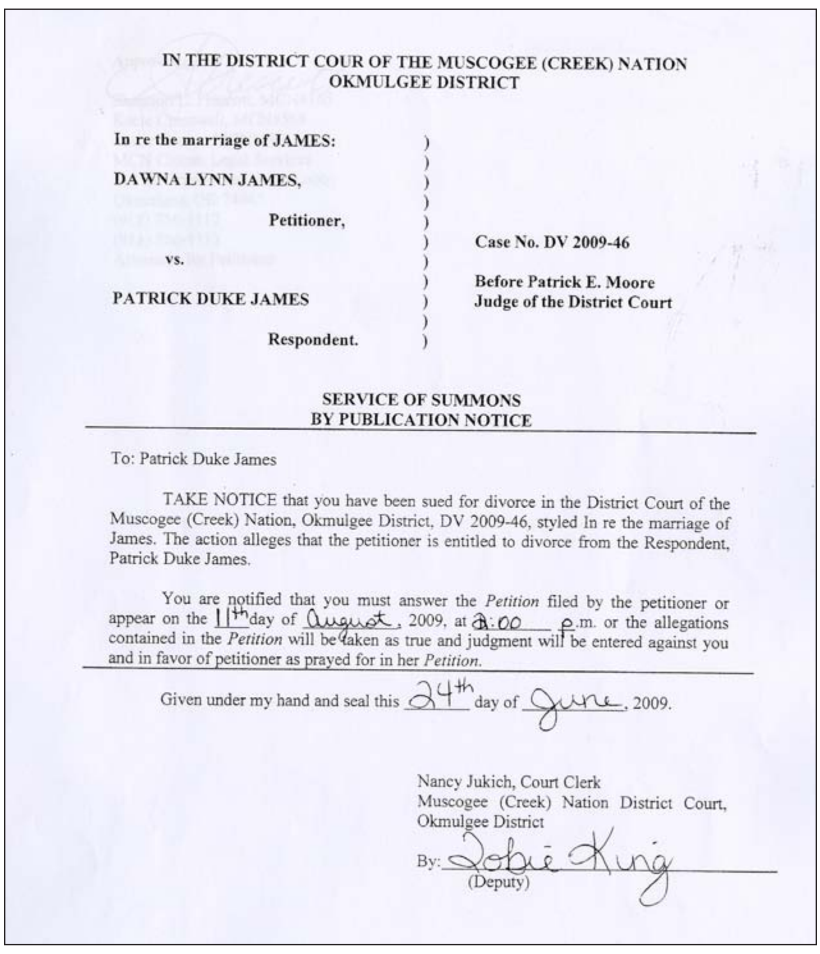
TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, DV 2009-50, styled In re the marriage of Morgan. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to divorce from the Respondent, Mia Dion Nimsey.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear on the 11th day of August, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in his *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 24th day of June, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Jobie King
(Deputy)



IN THE DISTRICT COUR OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the marriage of JAMES:

DAWNA LYNN JAMES,
Petitioner,

vs.

PATRICK DUKE JAMES
Respondent.

Case No. DV 2009-46
Before Patrick E. Moore
Judge of the District Court

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Patrick Duke James

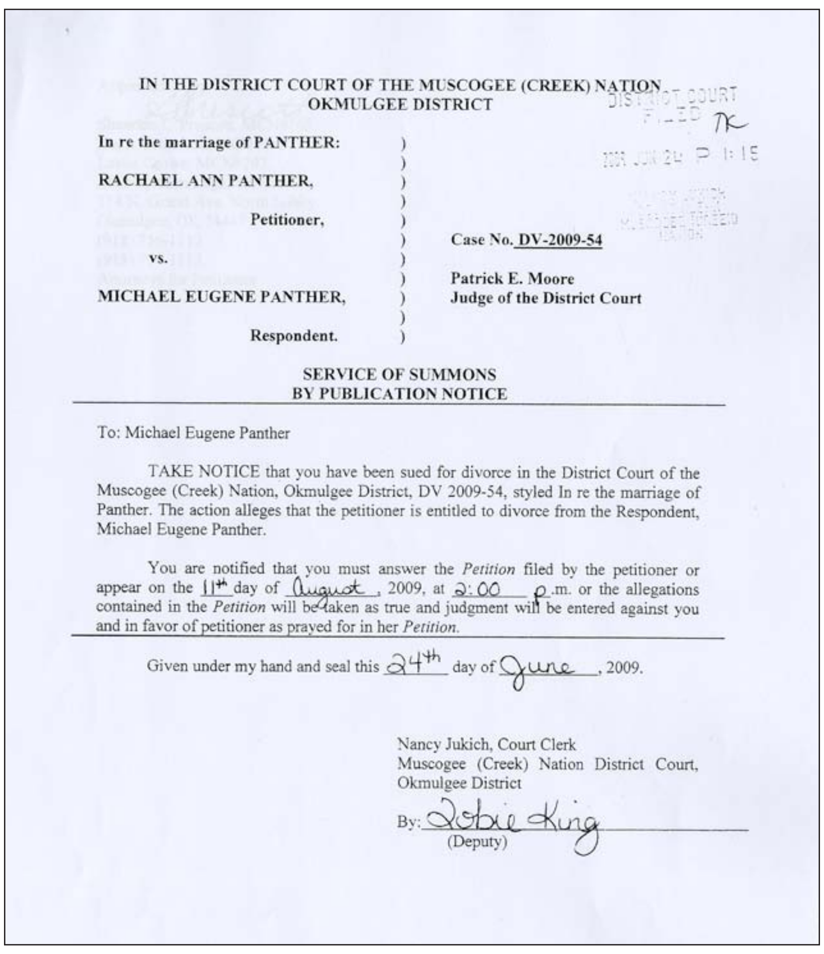
TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, DV 2009-46, styled In re the marriage of James. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to divorce from the Respondent, Patrick Duke James.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear on the 11th day of August, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 24th day of June, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By: Jobie King
(Deputy)



DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 JUN 24 P 1:15

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the marriage of PANTHER:

RACHAEL ANN PANTHER,
Petitioner,

vs.

MICHAEL EUGENE PANTHER,
Respondent.

Case No. DV-2009-54
Patrick E. Moore
Judge of the District Court

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Michael Eugene Panther

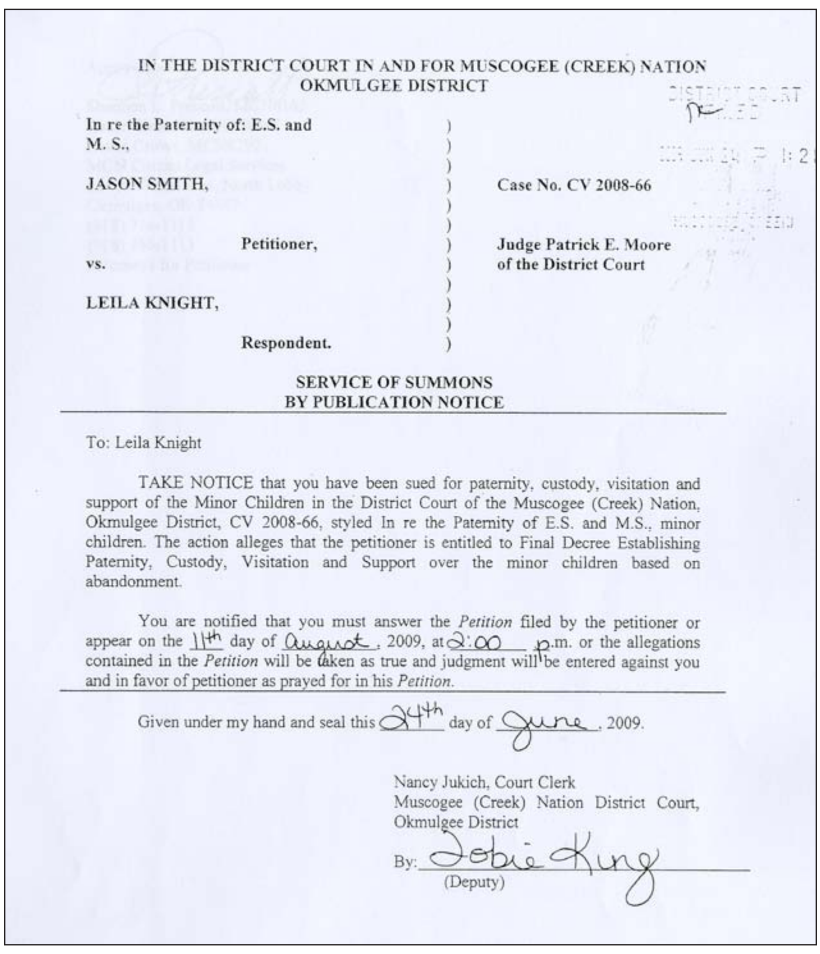
TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, DV 2009-54, styled In re the marriage of Panther. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to divorce from the Respondent, Michael Eugene Panther.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear on the 11th day of August, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 24th day of June, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By: Jobie King
(Deputy)



DISTRICT COURT
FILED

IN THE DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the Paternity of: E.S. and M. S.,

JASON SMITH,
Petitioner,

vs.

LEILA KNIGHT,
Respondent.

Case No. CV 2008-66
Judge Patrick E. Moore
of the District Court

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Leila Knight

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for paternity, custody, visitation and support of the Minor Children in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, CV 2008-66, styled In re the Paternity of E.S. and M.S., minor children. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to Final Decree Establishing Paternity, Custody, Visitation and Support over the minor children based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear on the 11th day of August, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in his *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 24th day of June, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By: Jobie King
(Deputy)

BUSINESS/GAMING

River Spirit makes ‘great strides’

• Casino donates $13,000 to Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

RIVER SPIRIT
Casino
Date 6/17/09
Pay to the order of Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
$13,107.00
Thirteen thousand, One hundred, and Seven Dollars
Memo "Great Strides Walk"
RIVER SPIRIT CASINO MANAGEMENT

Photo courtesy of River Spirit Casino

Pictured above is new River Spirit General Manager Shawn Smyth along with representative from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and Director of Marketing for River Spirit Casino Jenny Cross.

MAKING STRIDES IN THE COMMUNITY

TULSA – River Spirit Casino presented a check to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation for over $13,000 on June 16, in the Mystic River Lounge, located in the center of the casino. This presentation was a celebration of the casino’s contribution to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation’s Great Strides Walk, more than tripling the fund-raising efforts of last year.

With the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation’s Great Strides Walk approaching, River Spirit Casino gave their guests an opportunity to help this great cause. All guests that donated $10 or more received $10 back in Rewards Play, from the casino, on their River Spirit Casino Infinity Card.

“The Muscogee (Creek) Nation and River Spirit Casino have a long history of supporting and giving back to the community,” said Jenny Cross, Director of Marketing at River Spirit Casino. “The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation’s Great Strides Walk is a national event with strong local roots. We have high hopes that each year the donations continue to grow.”

The Great Strides Walk took place on May 30th at more than 600 walk sites, including in Tulsa at Centennial Park. This event is the foundation’s largest fund-raising event, raising $37 million in 2008. The donations provide opportunities for all people within a local community to get involved by forming teams through their workplace, clubs, and organizations or with friends and family.

River Spirit Casino names Smyth new General Manager

Media Release
River Spirit Casino

TULSA — River Spirit Casino, one of Oklahoma’s premier gaming and entertainment facilities, owned and operated by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, has announced Shawn S. Smyth as the new General Manager, effective June 15, 2009.

With the opening of the new River Spirit Casino, South Tulsa’s upscale gaming facility, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is excited to bring new leadership on board. Smyth is a veteran Casino/Hotel/Resort executive with a proven record of success in both tribal and non-tribal properties. Smyth’s leadership experience and track record of positively impacting properties, as well as his success in resort master planning, design, construction, staffing, training, and openings are the exact qualities that River Spirit Casino was looking for to launch them into the future.

Photo courtesy of River Spirit

Shawn S. Smyth became the new General Manager of Tulsa’s River Spirit Casino June 15, 2009 and will take the casino to new heights.

“The Board looks forward to a seamless transition in management and is confident that River Spirit Casino will continue to succeed under the leadership of Shawn Smyth,” said Brant Beaver, Chairman of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Gaming Operations Authority Board.

Before joining the team at River Spirit Casino, Smyth has most recently made a positive impact in Geyserville, Cali., as the CEO of the River Rock Entertainment Authority and the General Manager of the River Rock Casino. Prior to his leadership role at River Rock, Smyth served as the General Manger at the Paradise Casinos located in Yuma, Ariz., and Seven Feathers Hotel Casino Resort in Southern Oregon.

Commenting on his appointment, Smyth said, “I am very enthusiastic about joining the River Spirit Casino team and also working with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. I believe that I will be a great fit at this property and look forward to contributing to its success and growth.”

Native American women-owned business conference

Media Release
Office of Indian Energy

CATOOSA — WEWIN will host a unique four-day intensive learning experience for Native American women who run businesses. The case study for the four days will be owning your own business. Business owners will assess strategies for financing the business, growing in scale and profitability, improving your competitive position, and penetrating customers and markets—then you will plan to implement specific improvements. Attendance is limited to 60 high-potential Native American women business leaders. Participants will join a network of colleagues with whom we hope you’ll do business, exchange ideas and opportunities, and consult as challenges arise in the future.

The Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development (IEED) is sponsoring the program, with the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth conducting the learning experience; Tuck specializes in serving Native Americans, and women business owners. To reserve a place in the program and more information, contact Patricia (Pat) Parker at (571) 323.5657 or pparker@namsinc.org or Bridgett Bidle at (571) 323.5641 orbridgett@namsinc.org. Please note the only cost incurred by participants is for travel, lodging, and meals.

Grand Lake Association names Lowe new Executive Director

Media Release
Grand Lake Association

GROVE — The Grand Lake Association is pleased to announce the appointment of its new Executive Director William D. Lowe, a Muscogee (Creek) citizen.

Lowe

“As a nonprofit entity whose mission is to encourage visitor and product development through strategic marketing of the 4-County Grand Lake Region, the Grand Lake Association required a combination of vision, compassion and management expertise in its leader,” said Wayne Crouse, the Grand Lake Association’s Board President. “Lowe has just this combination. His wealth of community, cultural and state tourism experience and commitment to the success of the Grand Lake Association will be valued assets in our ongoing efforts to promote the Grand Lake Region.”

“I was drawn to the Grand Lake Association because of their commitment to both the community’s efforts and the state’s efforts in tourism, and also their lasting community involvement,” said Lowe. “The mission, the philosophy and the values of the organization are an inspiration and entirely compatible with my personal and professional orientation.”

Lowe has worked along side the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department for many years assisting them with their mission to advance Oklahoma’s exceptional quality of life by “Preserving, Managing, and Promoting our Natural Assets and Cultural Amenities.” He has served on many community boards, advisory committees and has worked with national, state and local tourism officials to help promote the state of Oklahoma.

Amanda Davis, Grand Lake Association Board Member adds her excitement about the new Executive Director and the future of Tourism in Northeast Oklahoma and the 4-County Region. “Our organization represents the counties of Mayes, Craig, Ottawa and Delaware. Combined, these counties have a tremendous amount of tourism product to offer the traveler. Mr. Lowe brings an impressive amount of experience in visitor development and will be a perfect fit for the Grand Lake Association and all our members.”

The Grand Lake Association is one of 11 multi-county organizations working with the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department to promote the state tourism industry. As a non-profit organization, the Grand Lake Association develops cooperative marketing and advertising campaigns designed to offer savings to their members. For more information on the Grand Lake Association, visit the Web site at www.grandlakefun.com.

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Cutting costs with new patient information computer system

Photo by Sandra Peters

Pictured above is Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and Lydia Brown, who is the Patient Registration Clerk at the Okmulgee Indian Health Center. He was first to present his card for information database.

by Sandra Peters,
Communications Coordinator
Division of Health

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health geared up on at 8:00 a.m. Monday, June 29th 2009 to initially introduce a new improvement in computer technology. Principal Chief A.D. Ellis was the first patient to have his card loaded into the computerized database, Friday, June 26th, 2009.

All of our health facilities began using a new computer system called NexGen, which houses patient demographic information. It is a high quality, cost effective technological system that will initially be used in our billing department.

Our patients will be asked to bring their CDIB and/or Tribal Membership Card, Social Security Card, Health Insurance Card or any photo identification to assist our staff in implementing the new technology.

Our citizens will now have all their medical records available at the touch of a button. They will be available at all our sites and will alleviate time consuming paper work. The part of the new system started June 29th is the Electronic Practice Management Portion and will include the patient demographic system.

The next phase will be the Electronic Medical Records where medical records will be scanned for all facilities to use for better quality care for our citizens. The new medical records which are quality scanned information will replace the old outdated material.

NexGen Technologies provide the Muscogee Creek Nation Health Division, within our registration and billing areas, with a unique combination of powerful technological systems check through the electronic medical database. It will reduce the chances of error for our patients and will revolutionize our medical record keeping system.

Skin Deep - *Understanding Acne* Part 1

by Selina Jayne-Dornan
Licensed Esthetician

EUFAULA — Nearly 85% of people will experience some form of acne during their lifetimes. According to the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD), acne is the most common skin disorder in the United States, affecting 40-50 million Americans at on time. (www.aad.org/media/background/factsheets/fact_acne.html)

When people think of acne, they think of teenagers, but acne can affect many people throughout adulthood, as well. Some estimate as many as half of all adult women experience some form of acne due to an increase in androgen and a decrease in estrogen during perimenopause. Looking good and feeling good go hand in hand – this is why it can be so difficult for clients who suffer from acneic skin. Acne can have a devastating effect on self-esteem can confidence, and many acne sufferers withdraw socially and even experience depression. The good news is that most acne can be treated with outstanding results.

Acne is an inflammatory lesion of the sebaceous glands and the first signs usually show up during puberty when there is an increase in the hormone androgen, which is especially active in stimulating the amount of oil produced by the sebaceous glands in the skin. This results in the extra production of sebum that combines with dead skin cells and other debris and becomes trapped, creating a plug that blocks the hair follicle. As the ducts of these glands become plugged with the waxy oil, comedones (blackheads) and milia (whiteheads) form. They are frequently infected with bacteria, causing welts, deeper lumps and pimples.

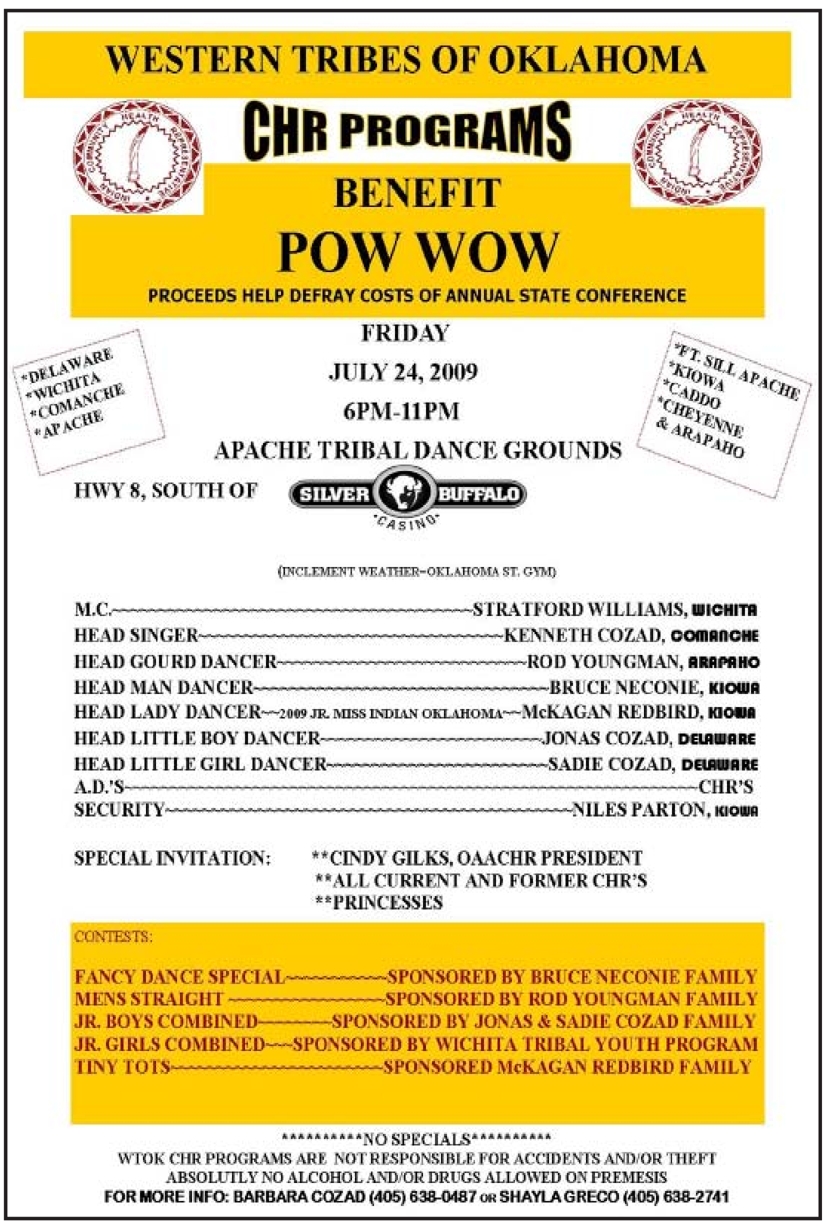
Sebaceous glands are the glands situated at the root of the hair follicle in the dermis. They can be found all over the body, except on the palms of the hands and the soles of the feet. There glands secrete sebum or oil. When the oil is mixed with perspiration, the skin's surface becomes slightly acidic. This keeps some bacteria and fungi from embedding in the skin and, at the same time, helps to retain water in the tissue by slowing down evaporation from the skin. When the sebaceous glands are stimulated, a process known as retention hyperkeratosis occurs. This may be triggered by the onset of puberty, hormonal fluctuations, pharmaceutical agents, stress, heat and humidity.

In acne, the dead cells stick together, along with excess sebum and bacteria, to form an impaction plug. This first stage impacted follicle is often referred to as microcomedone. As the bacteria digest the sebum, they produce fatty acid waste products that irritate the lining of the follicle, causing a proliferation of cells to accumulate in the impacted follicle. At this point, the disease may result in noninflammatory lesions, and simply produce closed comedones. When they eventually turn into open comedones and expel their contents, inflamed lesions may also result, whereby the follicle wall ruptures forming a papule. White blood cells invade the area and inflammation ensues. If the break is close to the surface of the skin, a pustule results – if it is deeper, a nodule forms. In some cases, a membrane entraps the infection and a cyst forms.

There are three factors that cause acne: sebum, bacteria and enclosure. When you encounter these factors together, it creates an environment for inflamed, irritated and congested skin. Acne.

Okay, now we know what they are and how they form – what do we do about them!!!! Sorry to keep you hanging but see you here next month and I will educate you on treatments, home care and those silly acne myths. Until then…..

Selina Jayne-Dornan is a licensed Esthetician and former Hollywood Makeup Artisit. Selina own the Merle Norman Cosmetic Studio and Elegance Spa in Eufaula.



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HEAD MAN DANCER--------------BRUCE NECONIE, KIOWA
HEAD LADY DANCER~~2009 JR. MISS INDIAN OKLAHOMA~~McKAGAN REDBIRD, KIOWA
HEAD LITTLE BOY DANCER--------------JONAS COZAD, DELAWARE
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HEALTHNOTES

Summer Youth Diabetes Prevention Camps 2009

by Tina Jo Gordon, RN,CDE
Okemah Indian Health Center

OKEMAH — The Community Diabetes Prevention program for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will offer Five different 4 Day Summer Youth Camps that stress healthy lifestyles and diabetes prevention. The first 3 days will include diabetes prevention education, cultural activities, good food, and FUN. The last day will be a field trip to Big Splash in Tulsa.

These camps will be Free to any American Indian youth 10-15 years of age. Campers must have a chart at one of the Creek Nation Clinics or have a CDIB card. Each camp will take the first 35 youth to sign up and priority will be given to 1st time campers. Listed below is the contact for each clinic area.

The Okemah Clinic Area Youth Camp will be July 13th – 16th, for more information contact Irene Culley at (918)-636-8735.

The Okmulgee Clinic Area Youth Camp will be July 20th – 23rd, for more information contact William Fixico at (918)-637-9683.

The Eufaula Clinic Area Youth Camp will be July 27th – 30th, for more information contact Kimberlee Little at (918)-637-9684.

The Koweta Clinic Area Youth Camp will be July 28th - July 31st, for more information contact Taylor Thompson at (918)-807-1561.

The Sapulpa Clinic Area Youth Camp will be Aug. 3rd – 6th, for more information contact Duane Meadows at (918)-695-1325.

Peak season for tick fever hits in June

Media Release
Okemah Indian Health Center

OKEMAH — Continued from June MNN.....

Symptoms usually develop 3-12 days after the tick bite and can include:

High fever, usually greater than 102oF; Headache, frequently severe; Muscle aches; Rash that usually begins around the wrist, ankles or trunk and spreads over the entire body, including the palms and soles of the feet; Sometimes accompanied by nausea, vomiting and diarrhea Rickettsia rickettsii is the organism responsible for RMSF. The organisms are introduced into humans after an infected tick has been feeding for more than 6 hours. Prompt medical attention and antibiotics are required. The mortality rate for this disease is 4%.

Diagnosis is typically made by clinical symptoms with a history of prolonged tick exposure. Blood tests are required for a definitive diagnosis.

The best way to prevent RMSF and other tick-borne diseases is to keep pets and the area close to the home tick free. Many good products are available through your veterinarian to repel ticks on your pets. Keeping the yard areas around your home well groomed is also helpful. When going into the woods wear long pants and shirtsleeves. Applying a product containing DEET, especially around the legs and ankles, is very beneficial. Since the tick has to feed for 6 hours before the disease is introduced, make it a habit during tick season to inspect your children a minimum of every 4-6 hours for ticks and promptly remove any that are found.Links for information about Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever Centers for Disease Control: http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvrd/rmsf/index.htm Missouri Dept. of Health: http://www.dhss.mo.gov/TicksCarryDisease/By Kathy Weldon , MT(ASCP), Salem Memorial District Hospital Laboratory

Could you be at risk for prediabetes?

by Loretta Jumper, RN
Sapulpa Diabetes Program Nurse Educator/Coordinator

SAPULPA — Prediabetes is a stage between not having Diabetes and having Diabetes for the rest of your life. It is prevalent in over 50 million people in the United States. Since prediabetes doesn't show signs or symptoms, many people may not know they have it! In order to prevent a progression to Type 2 Diabetes, intervention is necessary and urgent.

In prediabetes, blood sugar is higher than normal, but not high enough to be classified as Diabetes. Without intervention, prediabetes can lead to Type 2 Diabetes in as little as 10 years. With early diagnosis and lifestyle changes, serious health problems, such as heart disease, stroke, eye, and kidney disease may be prevented.

You should be tested for prediabetes if you have any of the following Risk Factors for Type 2 Diabetes: Family History; Overweight or obese; History of gestational diabetes or infant born with birth weight greater than 9 lb; High risk ethnic group, i.e. Native American; Hypertension, or high cholesterol; Over 45 years of age or over 25 and overweight.

Although prediabetes has no signs or symptoms, it is important to be alert to increased thirst, urinating frequently, extreme fatigue, blurred vision, slow healing sores or frequent infections; which are classic signs of Type 2 Diabetes.

A prediabetes diagnosis means a Fasting Blood Sugar Test with a blood sugar level between 100 and 125 mg/dL, normal is less than 100 mg/dL. Or, an Oral Glucose Tolerance Test with a blood sugar level from 140 to 199 mg/dL after fasting, normal is less than 140 mg/dL. Your doctor can order either of these tests to see if you have prediabetes. If you are diagnosed with prediabetes, you have an opportunity to begin new lifestyle habits, such as eating a low calorie diet, increase in exercise and physical activities, and routine check-ups. With early intervention, elevated blood sugar, can actually return to normal.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Program has a Prediabetes class at each of our clinics for those who are diagnosed. This class gives information for a better understanding of diabetes and your role in prevention of Type 2 Diabetes.

Have a healthy summer

by Tina Jo Gordon, RN,CDE
Okemah Indian Health Center

OKEMAH — People with diabetes are at higher risk for foot injuries due to summer sports and other activities. During the warm weather, feet are more exposed and more vulnerable to irritation. If a person is barefoot while swimming or walking, injuries may occur. Also, this is the time that a person may wear more open toed shoes or sandals. As a result cracked, dry heels are one of the most common foot problems seen in the summertime.

If a person has peripheral neuropathy or numbness in their feet, the risk of injury is even greater. When walking barefoot on a hot surface such as pavement or sand, burns to the feet can occur. A cut to the foot or a foreign body such as a piece of glass or splinter may go unnoticed.

Remember to check feet daily. A mirror may be used to inspect the feet if a person cannot see the bottom of their foot. Avoid shoes such as flip-flops, which can be irritating to the skin between the toes. Blisters, calluses, and corns can also develop. Select shoes with good support and that do not allow the foot to slip when walking. And as always, wash and thoroughly dry feet daily. Apply a cream to

To be continued in August MNN

COMMUNITY NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Eufaula Community to host Children's Health Fair

EUFAULA — Eufaula Indian Community is hosting a Children's Health Fair sponsored by Eufaula Indian Health Center on July 31, 2009 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Skating Rink (Eufaula Indian Community Center) located at 800 Birkes Rd., in Eufaula.

The health fair is free and lunch will be provided as well as free T-shirts for children from head start to sixth grade. For more information, please contact Lynda McIntosh-Saltsman, PHN at (918) 689-2547

Twins Hills Community to host food sale and flea market

TWIN HILLS — Twin Hills Indian Community is having a Food Sale and Flea Market Saturday, Aug. 1, 2009 at the Community Center located at 8110 N. Highway 52. The flea market will be from 8 a.m.-2 p.m., and the food sale will be from 11a.m.-2 p.m. For more information please call (918) 733-9117.

Checotah Indian Community to host Health Fair

CHECOTAH — Checotah Indian Community is hosting a Health Fair sponsored by Eufaula Indian Health Center on July 17, 2009 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Checotah Community Center located at 500 Owens Avenue, in Checotah. The health fair is free and open to the public.

Lunch will be provided and there will also be door prizes. Come enjoy the information and have fun. For more information, please contact Lynda McIntosh-Saltsman, PHN at (918) 689-2547.

42nd Annual Buck

HOLDENVILLE — The Buck Family would like to invite everyone to the 42nd Annual Buck Memorial Singing to be held on Friday, July 18 and Saturday, July 19 at the Buck Pavilion, Hughes County Expo Center in Holdenville.

The Gold City Quartet, The Anchormen and the Homesteaders will be singing, along with acts from local talent. This is a free concert, however, a love offering will be taken to help with expenses.

The event will begin at 7 p.m., and a concession stand will be available. Participants are asked to bring their own lawn chairs.

CASA Classic and silent auction set for July 11, 2009

Media Release
Okmulgee County CASA

HENRYETTA — A classic team scramble and silent auction will be held at the Henreyetta Golf and Country Club July 11. The scramble and silent auction are sponsored by the Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children Association (CASA). Sign in times are at 7 a.m. and 12 p.m. Shot gun starts are at 8 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., limited to the first 22 teams.

The entry fees are $55 per person or $220 for a four-person team. Cash prizes will be awarded to the first and second place winners. A golf cart, continental breakfast, catered lunch and door prizes will also be included in the day's event. Prizes for longest drive, closest to the pin and hole in one will be awarded as well. For more information please contact Kim Deer at (918) 756-2549 or by e-mail at casaokm5@sbcglobal.net.

Tulsa Powwow princess reception set for July 8, 2009

Media Release
Tulsa Indian Club

TULSA — The Tulsa Powwow and Tulsa Indian Club invite you to attend the Tulsa Powwow Princess Reception Wednesday, July 8, from 6-8 p.m. The event will be held in the BS Roberts Room on the OSU-Tulsa campus located at 700 N. Greenwood Avenue in Tulsa.

The reception is to honor the 2008-2009 Tulsa Powwow Princess Brittany M. Hill, Yankton Sioux and Muscogee (Creek). Being introduced at the reception as well is the new 2009-2010 Tulsa Powwow princess Jordan Lee Harmon, Muscogee (Creek). Light refreshments will be served. For more information please contact Linda Bolin at (918) 630-1958 or Shonday Harmon at (918)-859-6755.

Social Services now offering summer energy assistance programs

Media Release
MCN Social Services Dept.

OKMULGEE — The Social Services Department is now offering two programs for summer energy assistance. We will continue to take applications through September 30, 2009, or until the funds are exhausted.

LIHEAP (Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program) is available for low-income families residing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation service boundaries.

The Tribal Energy Program is available for elders (55 and older) or those receiving disability benefits through the Social Security Administration.

To apply for services, please choose one of the following options:

Applicants may choose to apply:

1) IN PERSON - No appointment is necessary and clients will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis. Office hours are 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. We are located at 2971 N. Wood Drive, just north of the MCN Housing Building.

Citizens may apply by mail, fax or in person. Applicants should keep paying their bill until they receive an approval letter. Please allow at least 45 days for processing.

Please contact Social Services at 918-759-2334 if you need additional information. The toll-free number is 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7995.

Senior Services offering summer lawn assistance for seniors

by Jackson Barnett
MCN Senior Services

OKMULGEE — The Mvskoke Creek Nation Senior Services Program will again offer the lawn-cutting / tree-trimming service to Mvskoke senior citizens during the summer months.

The service will be available through Sept. 30 and like last year, Senior Services will schedule a number of yards in one community or town for each work day. This will prevent the team from traveling from one area to another that may be many miles away, which can be very time consuming.

Those requesting assistance through this program are asked to police their yards of paper, bricks, boards, diapers, clothes hangers and other items that may hinder work time and save the equipment from damage.

The service is set up to help our Creek senior citizens, 55 years and older, who may be unable to do this type of work for themselves or who cannot pay for such work.

Names will continue to be taken throughout the summer. To submit contact information including name, address and phone number, please contact Senior Services Manager Jackson Barnett at (918) 732 - 7723.

Social Services offers assistance with air conditioning units

Media Release
MCN Social Services

TULSA — The Air Conditioning Program provides small window units for enrolled Creek Citizens 60 years of age and older who have no air conditioning unit or existing air conditioning is inadequate. Those under 60 years of age with a medical need are also eligible. (Delivery and installation are available for those living in the service area. Citizens living outside the service area are required to pick up the unit.)

Guidelines:

1. Must be enrolled with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation (CDIB is not accepted)

2. At least one member of the household must be a vulnerable person:

A. Elder— 60 yrs or older

B. Disabled—receiving SSA disability payments

C. Medically needy Assistance:

- One window air conditioning unit

Required Documents

- Citizenship cards for all members of the household
- Social Security cards for all members of the household
- If disabled, proof of SSA payment (copy of award)
- If medically needy, a statement from your doctor stating that air conditioning is a medical necessity
- Notarized statement from a non-family member verifying that the home has no air conditioning or existing air conditioning is inadequate.

For questions or additional information, contact Social Services Department by calling (918) 759 - 2334.

MCN Social Services and Food Distribution Field Schedule

Coweta	Community Center 8:30 - 11 a.m.	2nd Tuesday of the Month
Glenpool	Community Center 9:00 - 10 a.m.	2nd Wednesday of the Month
Bristow	Community Center 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.	2nd Thursday of the Month
Eufaula	Community Center 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.	3rd Tuesday of the Month
Sapulpa	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	3rd Wednesday of the Month
Checotah	Community Center 9:00 - 11 a.m.	3rd Thursday of the Month
Weleetka	Community Center 9:00 - 10 a.m.	4th Tuesday of the Month
Okemah	Community Center 9:00 - 10 a.m.	4th Wednesday of the Month
Holdenville	Community Center 9:00 - 11 a.m.	4th Thursday of the Month

FAMILY MEMBERS OF MUSCOGEE (CREEK) SOLDIERS KILLED IN ACTION

It is requested that family members of Muscogee (Creek) soldiers Killed In Action during World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam kindly contact the Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO) to provide the following:

- **Name of Muscogee (Creek) Soldier**
- **Verification of Citizenship**
- **Killed In Action Verification**
- **Birth Date**
- **Service Branch**
- **Killed In Action Date**

The Requested purpose of this information is to publicly honor and recognize our tribal soldiers in the Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO) Memorial Courtyard.

Please contact:
Shawn Taryole • (918) 732-7745 • staryole@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
Ken Davis • (918) 732-7739 • kendavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
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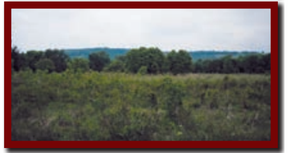

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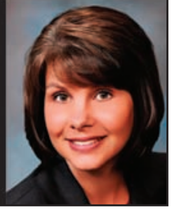

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Dallas Independent School District's Indian Education Program

MNN/*Lee Longhorn*

Pictured above is Leo Wesley, Community Liaison for the Dallas I.S.D. Indian Education Program. Wesely helps a young camper during the school's summer camp entitled "Respect Mother Earth." Wesley is a member of he Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

by Lee Longhorn
MNN Intern

OKMULGEE — Students in the American Indian Education Program for the Dallas Independent School District are learning more and more about their culture, background, history, and identity with the help of Director/Specialist Tracey Palmer and Community liaison Leo Wesley. American Indian students this summer were eligible to be a part of summer enrichment program entitled "Respect Mother Earth."

For two one-week camps students were exposed to math/science activities, culturally related reading and writing activities, tribal history, story telling and health and wellness presentations. Students at the camps were introduced to a variety of activities. Students were introduced to water conservation and learned how to use the phrase "reduce, reuse and recycle." One age group were able to draw a tribal seal. Most of the seals were of Oklahoma based tribes.

Camps like these are important, says Palmer "It exposes students to enrichment activities that highlight native information and culture." Palmer, direcor/specialist for the program is a Muscogee (Creek) citizen and former Oklahoma resident. Palmer believes in camps like this and that they help her interpretation of Indian Education. "Indian Education is a life long commitment to developing opportunities for Native American students to experience an education that gives them challenging intellectual and spiritual activities that preserve our Native beliefs and customs. In other words, entwining our culture within the main stream teaching."

Camps like these are a vital importance to American Indian youth in urban cities. "Special camps like ours give Native students the opportunity to participate in custom activities that encompass their unique cultural and academic needs. Often native students are streamlined into other ethnic groups activities and teachings, they lose their own identity!"

Culturally based activities are highly used in the camps and in the Indian Education Program. Leo Wesley, community liaison, has reading clubs and many of the schools in the district. In these clubs the students read many books containing native content. Support for a programs like these come from not only the school district but outside area help as well. "Dallas I.S.D. gives us the building to host our program. Also advertisement and meals are provided free of charge for our students. Also, this year we had two corporate sponsors. Brenco Industrial Services L.L.C and Able Concrete, both in the Dallas area."

Steve Cardwell, President of Brenco, paid for the camp T-shirts, and Able Concrete paid for all of the field trips. "They are both wonderful supporters of the Indian Education Programs in the Dallas Fort Worth area. We are blessed to have them as our community supporters, they help enrich our Native children's lives." Included in the field trips were visits to the Dallas World Aquarium, Dallas heritage village and the Trinity River Audubon Center.

The district's mission is "to prepare all students to graduate wit the knowledge and skills to become productive and responsible citizens." Goals for the 2008-2009 school year included improving the academic performance of American Indian students in reading, reduce the American Indian students drop out rate, increase the number of American Indian students who enter college increase participation of American Indian students in cultural education and increase parent involvement.

Texas is has the fifth largest American Indian population holding over 100,000 American Indians along with three Indian reservations. The Dallas I.S.D., has over 500 American Indian students enrolled in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. There are 60 tribal nations represented. The top five largest tribal nations in the school district include the Choctaw, Cherokee, Muscogee (Creek), Dine (Navajo), and Sioux Nations. The Muscogee (Creek) is the third largest population.

The American Indian Education program is located at 3434 S. R.L. Thornton Freeway, Room 124. Included are an arts and crafts center, a large collection of children's literature with Native content, American Indian artifacts, and a large collection of books with American Indian content donated by C. George Younkin of Arlington, Texas. Also the students have a collection of native language materials including cassette tapes and booklets of the Muscogee (Creek) language.

MNN/*Lee Longhorn*

Pictured above students take part in arts and crafts activities. Dallas I.S.D. is home to more than 500 American Indian students with over 60 tribes represented.

MNN/*Lee Longhorn*

Pictured above Leo Wesley, Community Liaison, and MNN Intern Lee Longhorn discuss and demonstrate Muscogee (Creek) stickball activities.

Connors State offers summer language class

by Lee Longhorn
MNN Intern

WARNER — Students enrolled in the Upward Bound program at Connors State College this summer are preparing for college along with learning the Muscogee (Creek) language taught by "Mvhayv" Rebecca Barnett. The curriculum includes the alphabet, colors, simple sentences, phrases, songs, and counting money.

According to the U.S. Department of Education website, Upward Bound provides fundamental support to participants in their preparation for college entrance. The goal of Upward Bound is to increase the rate at which participants complete secondary education and enroll in and graduate from institutions of postsecondary education. Barnett says "this class prepares them for a world of unknown." Similar to college classes in which little to no background of the subject is familiar to students, this class offers them preparation on how a college class will be like. "A lot of these students never heard the Creek language, let alone the Creek people."

Different than her students, Barnett says she was born with the language. "I was born with it...it was a part of my family. My grandmother was illiterate, she did not know English, so in order to communicate we had to speak it." During the first class Barnett gave the students a pre-test asking questions such as "Do you know Creek?" "Do you know anyone who is Creek?" Barnett says, "Almost all of them answered "No."

Teaching the language isn't a problem for Barnett, she says an obstacle she has to overcome the majority of the time is "explaining what we are, our culture and our background." Many questions asked from students include "Why do ya'll [Creeks] do this?" "Why do ya'll do that?" and "How come…?" Above all, within three weeks into the language class, many of the students could sing "Jesus loves me" and the Heleluyvn hymn memorized.

After her teaching tenure at Connors State ends, Barnett would like to continue teaching the language. She says "If I could teach every child I would." A member of the wotko clan and a member of Tukvpvtce Etvlwv, Barnett has enhanced the students of the Upward Bound program by enlightening them into a world most of them have never been to, the world of Muscogee (Creek) mother, daughter, grandmother and teacher.

Bible

Continued from A1

Bible has been a member of the Board which issues degrees, determines the curricula and courses of study and establishes student fees and tuition rates. Being an educator and Creek citizen of the Bird Clan, Bible seemed a logical addition to the board on which he has served since 2005.

Bible indicated that he had interest in the position but had strong ties to public school environment. Over the course of a few years, Bible said, "Things gradually fell into place and applying for the position seemed to be the right move."

Bible spoke about his experiences as a young person and his philosophy on higher education. As a young person Bible did not immediately complete his continuing education. He, like many young people explored other options before returning college and completing his degree. It is this decision and his life experiences which will make Bible a great influence on the emerging College of the Muscogee Nation. With many students facing several challenges in continuing education Bible will able to identify with these same struggles and encourage students to persevere.

Bible expressed some of his goals for the college and goals for his own growth. "I am excited to see the college facilities built, the board, National Council, and tribal government have worked hard and it will be great to see the vision realized," said Bible. He also shared his hopes that growth of the college will continue, adding new curriculum and perhaps become a four-year institution.

In addition to foreseeing growth for the college, Bible stated that he looked forward to the personal growth this position would bring. "I am enjoying working so closely with traditions and learning the language," said Bible. He also intends to pursue a doctorate degree which will be a value to his position as president.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
School Clothing Assistance Program

NEW **START DATE FOR THE SCHOOL CLOTHING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IS JUNE 1, 2009!!**

WHO: The School Clothing Assistance Program is to assist Creek students who are enrolled as a Muscogee Creek Citizen. Students must be 3 years old and enrolled in any Head-Start or private school, at least 4 years old and enrolled in a public or private school, no higher than the 12th grade. Home schooled children ages 5 to 18 are also eligible.

WHAT: A grant of $200.00 to purchase clothing items and/or shoes.

WHEN: **ATTENTION! New Start Date!!** Applications will be available beginning June 1, 2009 and will end October 2, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

WHERE: Applications will be available at the School Clothing Program office, MCN Indian Community Centers and the MCN Child Development Centers.
You can also call 918-756-2024 or 800-482-1979 to request an application be mailed or faxed to you!

For questions or additional information, contact the
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
School Clothing Program
at 918-756-2024 or 800-482-1979

The School Clothing Program Office is located behind the Social Services Building at 2971 N. Wood Drive, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Haikey Chapel Youth receive Mission Award

LIVING - B3

Commemorating a decade

SPOTLIGHT - B5

FEATURES

Pride of Muscogee Nation

• Band celebrates fourth year in festival parade

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Pictured above is the Pride of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Marching Band making their fourth appearance at the annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation parade held in downtown Okmulgee. The band performed an excerpt of the national march "Stars and Stripes Forever." Carrying the banner for the band are Hanna Gouge and Savannah Freeman.

MARCHING STRONG

OKMULGEE – The "Pride of Muscogee Nation" made its fourth appearance in downtown Okmulgee for the 35th Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival on June 20. The band is under the direction of Mr. Lee Longhorn with administrative assistance by Melinda Deeringwater.

The band is composed mostly of Muscogee (Creek) students from local area schools such as Dewar, Morris, Okmulgee, Kiefer, Sapulpa and Broken Arrow. The band performed an excerpt from John Philip Sousa's "Stars and Stripes Forever."

On Monday, June 15, Muscogee (Creek) citizens Tracy Palmer and Leo Wesley presented a monetary gift to the "Pride of the Muscogee Nation" Marching Band. Both are employed with the American Indian Education Program for the Dallas Independent School District.

Palmer received her undergraduate degree at the University of Tulsa and now serves as a specialist for the program. Wesley serves as the community liaison and conducts reading clubs in the Dallas I.S.D., area. Both grew up in Okla., and are happy to give a helping hand to the music students of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The band is sponsored by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of the Second Chief and Tourism and Recreation.

MNN/*Lee Longhorn*

MCN breaks new ground

• Tribe breaks ground on new multipurpose building

MNN/*Thompson Gouge*

Pictured above from left to right are Ben Chaney – Transportation Manager, Claude Sumner –Executive Director, Representative David Hill, Representative James Jennings, Representative Pete Beaver, Representative Paula Willits, Speaker Thomas Yahola, Chief A.D. Ellis, Cherokee Hicks – Director of Tourism, Robert Miller - Director of Tribal Affairs, Solomon Morgan – Tribal Construction Manager and Michael McCoy - Architect for the project.

Media Release
MCN Public Relations

OKMULGEE — On Friday, June 26, 2009, at 10 am, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation broke ground at the Claude Cox Omniplex Grounds for the new multi purpose building.

This 160-foot diameter Monolithic Dome building will be an event center for various activities that will be held in this facility. The $4 million project, which will encompass more than 20,000 square feet, will include spectator seating, classrooms, concessions and several multi-use areas.

"Better late than never" said Chief A.D. Ellis. "The kids will have a place to play, the elders will have a place to jog and a place for us to hold a lot of activities!" added Chief Ellis.

Monolithic Domes are steel-reinforced, super-insulated concrete structures that meet the Federal Emergency Management Agency's criteria for near-absolute protection from hurricanes and tornadoes. Because of their shape and the materials used in their construction, the domes are also considered among the greenest of all buildings, saving as much as 50 percent on heating and cooling costs compared to traditional structures of the same size.

Michael McCoy, the Oklahoma-based architect on the project, said the Monolithic Dome's energy efficiency and strength both were key factors in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's decision to go with dome construction.

"Since Oklahoma is prone to severe weather and tornadoes, the leadership of the Muscogee Nation really liked the fact that the facility can double as a community storm shelter," McCoy said. "The energy efficiency of the building was another major draw for them," he added.

The facility will be used for the many events the Muscogee Nation hosts each year to share and preserve the group's tribal identity. For more information about the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, visit www.themuscogeecreeknation.com.

MFSI Radio to offer tunes, tips and news

Media Release
Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative

OKMULGEE — It's free and it's easy to access by clicking "Listen to our new streaming radio" on the MFSI Web site at www.mvskokefood.org.

For the first time in the region, MFSI is offering a free alternative to regular AM/FM radio choices - MFSI Radio. The live stream radio is a mix of all kinds of music, including some in the Mvskoke language along with gardening tips, Mvskoke language lessons and stories, progressive news, Native news and much more.

We are extremely fortunate that Mark Madrid (Mvskoke) has taken this project on as his volunteer contribution to our work.

SEE RADIO - B8

Tune in to Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative Radio by visiting the official Web site at www.mvskokefood.org.

Filing dates for National Council set for July 20-22

Media Release
MCN Election Board

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board will conduct the National Council elections in Fall 2009. The primary election will be held Sat., Sept. 19 followed by a general election to be held on Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009 at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Qualifications for National Council Representatives include being one-fourth (1/4) or more Creek, by blood quantum, 18 years of age or older, an enrolled Creek citizen, residence within the jurisdiction for one full calendar year and a registered tribal voter for at least six months prior to filing for candidacy.

In order to become a registered Muscogee (Creek) voter, one must be an enrolled citizen of the Creek Nation, be 18 years of age or older, register or be willing to register in a specified jurisdictional area. Additionally, any registered voter may become an absentee voter, and registered voters living outside out the official boundaries of the MCN are registered as absentee voters. The Election Board will not accept copies of the registration form for official registration.

SEE ELECTIONS - B8

CULTURE B2
Mvskoke Language Program expands resources

LIVING B3
And Still the Waters Run: *The Grapes of Wrath*

LIFESTYLES B4
Hvsotte Sannie Yahola

SPOTLIGHT B5
Creek playwright prepares for debut

OBITUARIES B6
Jeffery Patterson

JUMPS B8
Council House Museum

Preliminary sketch of the Kialegee Tribal Town

by Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Cultural Preservation

WETUMKA — The early record on Kialegee is somewhat indefinite as Swanton, whose hold more possible related information seems to imply. The traditional story according to his sources tells of Kialegee as being a branch or daughter of Tuckabatchee of which Swanton has doubts. However, another source confirms the traditional story referred to by Swanton. Hewitt groups the Tribal Towns of Holiwahali, Laplako, Hatcheecuba and Kialegee as among from Tuckabatchee. A common record among most historic writers agree on Kialegee as listed among the Muscogee speaking tribes.

If not for comparative similarities of names of Tribal Towns, with the correct pronunciations of today, the history would suffer some loss. Early French, Spanish and English record names these tribal towns in their own languages. This presents a slight conjecture when associating these foreign expressions of our names of Tribal Towns to the correct indigenous expression. Kialegee is expresses by these early chroniclers as "Gowalege" Calalek, Kalalekis, Caiageche, Kalaechy, and Coilegees". Kialegee is said to come the Muscogee words, "Ekv" which means "head" and "elecetv" which means, "to kill".

From the earliest map to record the first historic date of the Kialegee Tribal town in 1720 which was recorded on a southern affluent of the Okmulgee River in Georgia on Moll's map. From this point Swanton's research has Kialegee on the Tallapoosa River in Alabama in 1733. It appears that they moved their location within the Tallapoosa area several times but finally coming to settle on a creek which is named Kialegee which flows into the Tallapoosa river.

Hawkins tells us that in 1799, there were two branches, Vcenc, Vcenv Hvtce and Hvtcecvpv, which is, confirmed in Hewitt's group.

The Kialegee in on the Red or War side of the Fire, being a branch of the Tuckabatchee Tribal Town. Further record on Kialegee from 1799 on until 1835 is found wanting. However, Tuckabatchee has figured prominently in Creek history during that period. We can assume that the branch or daughters of Tuckabatchee were involved also although not named or mentioned by history during this period.

Michael D. Green, in his book, Politics of Indian Removal tells that, under the influence of Benjamin Hawkins, who was the Indian agent during the years 1796 – 1816, Tuckabatchee and Coweta became the capitals of the Creek Confederacy.

Ange Debo writes of the Tuckabatchee and Kialegee involvement in the Red Stick War as being and made strong efforts to maintain this position throughout the war. During this war Tuckabatchee is reported to have been destroyed by the hostile because of it's alliance with Hawkins and the Coweta.

Tuckabatchee prominence grew through the yeas preceding the removal. We can assume that Kialegee and it's branches were within that influence. With the approach of 1835, the Kialegee is mentioned and it's associated towns of the same Fire. Opothleyahola intended to comply with removal and had his people ready to depart for Indian Territory. Though the bungling of the government agents the removal was beginning to cause resistance because the very people that they hired as removal contractors were already hated by the Creeks for their previous despoiling acts against the Creeks. The removal plan began to break down. Many of the other Chiefs were prone to resistance had confidence and trust in a certain white man of trustworthy character as being in total command over the removal.

New difficulties were born out of sudden active reluctance to remove as suits being filed by whites against the Indians. They feared that all that remained of their possessions having reserved provisions and certain property for the removal would be attached by the whims of the dispossessing whites.

Under the weight of the indebtedness of his people, Opothleyahola was induced by the whites to capture the new resisting Indians. From his influence many of the hostiles of the Creek War of 1836 surrendered and began the removal journey,

TO BE CONTINUED

Mvskoke Language Program expands resources

MNN/*Lee Longhorn*

Pictured above are Minnie Proctor, Addie Lewis, and Mary Frye at the Bacone Language Summit in May. The Language Department is continuously working to produce resources and materials available for anyone interested in learning the Muscogee (Creek) language.

by Lee Longhorn
MNN Intern

OKMULGEE — With a continued interest from many citizens and public schools about the Muscogee (Creek) language, the language program is continuously working to make sure teaching materials are available to the citizens of the Muscogee Nation.

Later this month, audio compact discs will be available to Creek citizens and anyone else interested in learning the language. On the CD includes commands, simple sentences, words and phrases common for use in everyday life. As this supplemental teaching material will be used for private teachings, the language staff is approaching a more technological advance in reaching more students and schools with the use of satellite broadcasted lessons.

The satellite broadcasted lessons will enable the lengthy list of schools that are requesting the language to be included in their curriculum. Satellite broadcasted lesson will have students watching a computer monitor or television screen while listening to the lesson. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation wouldn't be the first tribe to implement the use of satellite broadcasted language lessons, as the Choctaw Nation was one of the first. The Choctaw language department has reached several dozen head starts, elementary, middle school, and high schools in the south east region of the state using satellite lessons. The Choctaw Nation has also used satellite broadcasts in higher education classes at Southeastern State University in Durant and this fall East Central University in Ada.

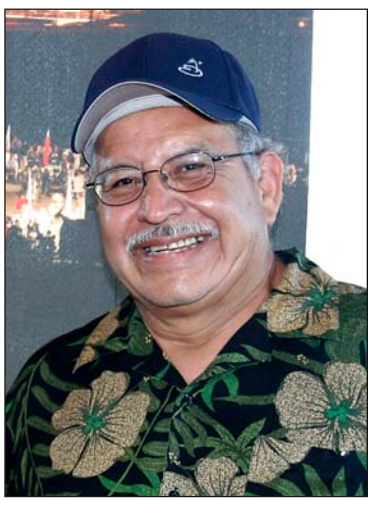
While more students in public schools will be able to access to learning the language and the number of schools using the language will grow, there is some slight opposition. Instructors of the language feel they prefer the more traditional style of teaching, with face-to-face interaction with students. Daria Hicks, Community Resource Teacher for the Muscogee (Creek) language department, says "The students won't be able to ask me to repeat myself or ask questions." Hicks recently completed a 16-week long teaching tenure in the Sapulpa community. In her class, she had students ranging from eight to nineties years old. Other language instructors feel students may lose the ability to hear and watch how the instructor speaks.

Rebecca Barnett, Connors State College Upward Bound Program instructor, said "Students can't watch my mouth and see what my mouth does when I'm speaking the language." Barnett has used satellite broadcasted lessons previous to her work at Connors State. "We used satellite to teach at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater. I didn't like not knowing who I was teaching. I like to know who the students are," Barnett added.

Kathleen Coachman, Muscogee (Creek) Nation language program manager feels using broadcasted lessons would be a positive step for the nation. "We have a long list of schools and communities wanting the language to be taught. If we were to try and rotate the community teacher it would take about six years to reach all the communities." With the language program a relatively new program at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the staff is continuously working to make sure language materials and teaching assistance is granted to students, citizens and staff hoping to learn more Muscogee (Creek).

MUSEUM NEWS & ACTIVITIES

AICCM selects artists for first public artwork



Bill Glass

Demos Glass

Media Release
American Indian Cultural Center

OKLAHOMA CITY — The American Indian Cultural Center and Museum (AICCM) officially launches its Art in Public Places (AIPP) program with the commissioning of its inaugural public art project. Bill and Demos Glass, a father and son team from Locust Grove, OK, who are members of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, received the $54,000 commission, which is comprised of designated Art in Public Places funding and an additional donation provided by the Chickasaw Nation. The AICCM's first public art project is to be positioned near the entrance of the newly constructed AICCM Visitor Center, the first building to be completed on the nearly 300-acre site, which is located at the intersection of I-35 and I-40, commonly referred to as the Crossroads of America.

"The AICCM is committed to including public art in every phase of the project's development," says Gena Timberman, Executive Director of the Native American Cultural and Educational Authority, the state agency developing the AICCM. "This inaugural public art project is the first of many art pieces that the AICCM will commission during the upcoming phases of construction."

The inaugural AIPP program began with a Hard Hat Tour of the AICCM Visitor Center on June 5, 2008, followed by a workshop hosted by the AICCM on July 15, 2008. Competing artists were required to attend one of the events in order to qualify for the first public art project. Now that the inaugural project is in progress, the AICCM encourages all Oklahoma artists to respond to future Requests for Proposals (RFQ) in order to be considered for participation in upcoming AIPP projects (the workshop and tour was only mandatory for the inaugural AIPP project).

The selection process was facilitated by Debby Williams, the Director of the Oklahoma Art in Public Places program, in conjunction with Russ Tall Chief, the AICCM's Director of Arts and Exhibitions. The first step in the selection process began with a committee review of the artists that respond to the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for a proposed public art project. A site-selection committee, consisting of a diverse cross-section of professionals from the Oklahoma business and arts community, reviewed the RFQ's and determined which artists advanced to the first round of the selection phase. The selected artists were then invited for a site visit with the committee. The artists then had approximately two months to prepare their design proposals to be presented to the committee for review, after which the committee made its selection. The commissioned piece now enters the final design phase, and is scheduled to be unveiled during the coming months upon completion of its fabrication and installation.

"We are proud to be considered for this opportunity to showcase our art at the new American Indian Cultural Center and Museum in Oklahoma City," says Bill Glass. "We approached this assignment as a father and son team—Demos relying on his expertise in the field of metals and I using various ceramic techniques that I have developed to create our submission. We feel that the combination of these two mediums has allowed us to create something new and innovative to the field of Indian Art. It has also allowed us to broaden our scale of artwork to monumental size pieces at our studio in Locust Grove, OK."

Please direct any inquiries about the AICCM's Art in Public Places Program to Russ Tall Chief, AICCM's Director of Arts and Exhibitions, at (405) 239-5512, or russt@aiccm.org. Inquiries may also be directed to Debby Williams, Director of the Oklahoma Art in Public Places program, at (405) 522-8959 or dwilliams@okhistory.org.

Bill Glass studied ceramics in the 1970's at Central State University (now known as the University of Central Oklahoma) in Edmond, OK, as well as ceramics and sculpture at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, NM. After teaching arts and crafts for the Cherokee Nation in Tahlequah, Glass established Bill Glass Ceramic Studio in his hometown of Locust Grove, OK. In 2001, Glass established the current Glass Studio, which he now shares with his son, Demos Glass, who is a metal sculptor.

Past public art commissions for Bill and Demos Glass, include establishing the Cherokee Artists Gadugi, Inc., a group of five Cherokee artists, which was commissioned by the city of Chattanooga, TN, to produce artwork to be displayed along a river walkway access known as the "Passage" (2007). Seven six foot stainless steel and clay medallions were fabricated and completed at Glass Studio, Locust Grove. The Glass team also received a commission to design four 22-foot terrazzo floor medallions from the Tulsa Art Commission for the new BOK Events Arena.

Demos Glass was born in Tahlequah and graduated from Locust Grove High School. Glass attended Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, Ill. on a wrestling scholarship, where he studied Fine Arts. Later, at the North East Oklahoma Training Center, Glass began welding, as well as his art career in sculptural metal works. Special exhibits featuring works by Demos Glass, include "Metal works: Containers of Form, Function and Beauty," Heard Museum North, Scottsdale, AZ (2003); and "Changing Hands; Part 2," Museum of Arts & Design, New York, NY (2005).

Works by Bill Glass can be found in numerous collections around the country, including the Five Civilized Tribes Museum in Muskogee, OK, the Heard Museum in Phoenix, AZ, the Institute of American Indian Arts Alumni Museum in Santa Fe, NM, the Atlanta History Center, Atlanta, GA, and the Stovall Museum in Norman, Okla.

Mvskoke Country: *Support Your Local Farmers' Market*

by James Treat

OKMULGEE — If you attended the Muscogee Nation Festival this year, you might have noticed a handwritten sign advertising "New Potatoes" on your way into the Omniplex.

Susie Harjo and her nephew Vince Deo were selling Pontiac Reds—big ones for baking, small ones for boiling—fresh from their organic garden south of Hanna. Growing potatoes is a family tradition, but one that was nearly lost before Susie and Vince decided to get back in the business of producing their own food.

Farming brings back a lot of memories for Susie, who was raised in the fields; her father plowed with a team of mules and sharecropped with his neighbors to make ends meet. Now she's passing on her knowledge to Vince, who has a growing vision of the possibilities for a family-run market garden.

I hope you had a chance to talk with Susie and Vince about their operation—and to take home some of their healthy, delicious crop.

* * *

New potatoes were not the only local produce available in Okmulgee during the summer solstice weekend.

On Friday, festival-goers could also patronize the farmers market held on the west lawn of the Creek Council House, a weekly event organized by the Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative. Heavy rains in the area have damaged or delayed some crops, but there were still several growers with early-season fruits and vegetables for sale.

I picked up some local peaches along with a quart of blackberries from the Owasso Tree and Berry Farm. These plump, sweet berries were especially tasty, and timely as well—in the Mvskoke calendar, June is "Kvco-Hvse," Blackberry Month.

Like the smell of a homemade casserole, it's comforting to know that a few of our indigenous agricultural traditions are alive and well, even early in a growing season hampered by stormy weather.

* * *

Those in Mvskoke country who are producing potatoes and blackberries and other crops for local consumption, as well as those who are buying and preparing and eating this produce, are part of a growing trend in the fast food nation.

Across America and around the world, people are fed up with corporate control of their food supply. Many are joining the Slow Food movement, which aims to stimulate local economies, promote agricultural diversity, preserve culinary traditions, and encourage healthy lifestyles.

Eating local can be very difficult in a world dominated by Walmarts and Warehouse Markets.

In his recent book "Coming Home to Eat: The Pleasures and Politics of Local Foods," ethnobotanist Gary Paul Nabhan recounts his attempt to survive for a year on food produced within 250 miles of his home in southern Arizona. He lived to tell the tale, though he had to cheat several times each week and it still wasn't easy.

How long could you live on food produced within a half-day's drive of your home? And where would you buy it?

Support your local farmers market!

Let's hope for a bumper crop in Mvskoke fields this year, and for more people like Susie and Vince to cultivate the Mvskoke agricultural heritage. http://mvskokecountry.wordpress.com

I welcome your comments on anything I write, as well as your suggestions for things I should be writing about. You can reach me by e-mail at: treaty@illinois.edu or on the web at www.illinois.edu/~treaty

Haikey Chapel Youth receive Mission Award

Photo submitted

Pictured above are Mr. Mickey McNac, Chelsea Ross, Jalisa Ross, in back is Bishop Robert E. Hayes, Jr., of the Oklahoma Area.

by Josephine Deere
Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference

TULSA — Each year the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference presents to someone in the conference the Warm Heart Award in honor of Ira D. Hart, retired Oklahoma Conference Volunteer in Mission Associate Director. This award is in honor of his many years of service to Volunteers in Mission and in his tremendous job in promoting the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference. It is always a pleasure for OIMC to give this award to those persons who have served the church so well and have demonstrated a heart for mission just as Ira has.

This year at the 2009 Annual Conference of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference the youth of Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church was presented this award. The youth have volunteered many hours of service to the Kahbeah Chapel in Horton, Kansas and to the Clinton Indian Church and Community Center in Clinton, Oklahoma.

Haikey Chapel UMC is located on 101st Street, a quarter mile east of Memorial Drive in Tulsa. Youth Coordinator for the church is Mr. Mickey McNac, assisted by Mrs. Sunrise Ross.

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And Still the Waters Run: *The Grapes of Wrath*

Photos courtesy of George Windes

Pictured above are Shead and Edna Freeman Newton with their family, circa 1938.

Submitted by George Windes
CMCA Historian

YORBA LINDA, Cali., — The decades from 1910 through 1940 were difficult years in Oklahoma. Drought, dust storms, racial unrest and the loss of allotment lands by many of our people are a matter of record and a sad chapter for the Muscogee Creeks. My grandparents, Roy & Dona Freeman, like some of their siblings, eventually sought a new life in the land of milk and honey, California. A popular gathering place for Creeks was Kern County. Bakersfield was the County seat. Creeks came to pick fruit and cotton, always hopeful of finding a well-paying job in the oil industry. My grandparents came first in 1915, but they missed Checotah 'something fierce' and returned home a year later. Finally they came again in 1937 when the conditions in Oklahoma were even more desperate. Grandpa found work in a tough little oil town called Taft. They struggled, but were happy.

Like typical family, they wrote their loved ones, encouraged them to migrate. A married daughter, Edna Freeman Newton, with her husband Shead, and several young ones came a few years later. They told the story of reaching the 'old grapevine' summit overlooking Kern County. Shead pulled Edna from the old truck, held her tight and said, "This is our new home, we will live here the rest of our lives." Jobs were scarce though and Shead was trained only in farming. Eventually they ended up in an infamous federal labor camp near Weedpatch, Cali. Their house was a one-room shack with wooden walls and a tarp roof. Uncle Shead worked long hard hours in the fields, struggling to keep food on the table. The boys, still very young, ran little errands and helped in every way possible.

Pictured above are the four grown sons of Shead and Edna Newton; Joe Lee, Paul, Johnny and Jimmy.

One evening while Edna was cooking in her Creek fashion, a long black car appeared in the camp. Uncle Shead was called over to the car window. He spent considerable time in sharing with the cars occupants a tale of trials and tribulations stretching from Oklahoma to the miserable camp. When he eventually came to dinner, his son Paul asked whom the man in the black car was. Shead said his name was Steinbeck, a writer interested in the Okies. There is no way to know for certain that Uncle Shead was providing dialogue for Steinbeck's epic novel, THE GRAPES of WRATH. Many families probably claim the same. However, around our campfire, the story of the long black car is often repeated, a treasured tale from a proud legacy of stories mingled with Indian Chiefs and Indian Territory outlaws.

A little side note to this narrative (since I've mentioned campfire), my brother Johnnie visited Aunt Edna and Uncle Shead in their later years. They lived in a 150-year-old adobe in Caliente, California. It was winter. A tree was burning in the corner fireplace,

a tree which poked out several feet into the room. John suggested that maybe it should have been cut into smaller logs. The old folks take; "It's only going to burn up anyway, why go to that trouble. Just remember to keep shoving it in the fireplace as the trunk turns to ash." I smile when I think of these loved ones. Shead, a lifelong farmer and a noted bear hunter with a pack of fine hounds. Aunt Edna was the sweetest Creek lady you would ever meet. Only one of their five children is still with us, John Newton, of Reedsport, Oregon. He's a registered member of the Muscogee Creek Nation.

Today on the roles of the California Muscogee (CREEK) Association, scores of the descendants of those Creeks who came to live in the great Central Valley of California are numerated. Like Indian Territory, California was just another place of refuge in the long and anguished history of our people.

"Dear Okie, if you see Arky, tell' im Tex's got a job for him out in Californy…" - A popular song from 1948.

George Windes is a direct descendant of William Weatherford (Red Eagle). His paternal grandfather, Joseph Leroy (Roy) Freeman, his eight siblings and mother, Josephine Freeman, were all original MCN enrollees. He has written a dozen manuscripts concerning his Native heritage and is Creek, Natchez (a long time part of the Creek Confederacy) and Cherokee.

Windes has been an active member of the California Muscogee Creek Association for nearly a decade and is currently serving on the Board as historian in addition to his role as a father of five, and grandfather to twelve, nearly all of which hold citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. He may be reached at: georgewindes@gmail.com.

GRADUATES

RaeLynn Ashley Butler

School: Haskell Indian Nations
Parents: Pam Butler and Roger Butler
Grandparents: Juanita Kelly and the late Roman Butler
Great Grandparents: Lester Deo and Andrew Butler
Clan: Raccoon
Tribal Town: Tukvpvtce
Ceremonial Ground: Peach Ground
Church: Wekiwa Indian Baptist
Awards: A research assistantship, her graduate degree will be under the supervision of Dr. Kevin Gibson and he will be her MS thesis advisor.
Future Plans: She will be admitted to the MS Program in the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology. Her research will be on organic agriculture.

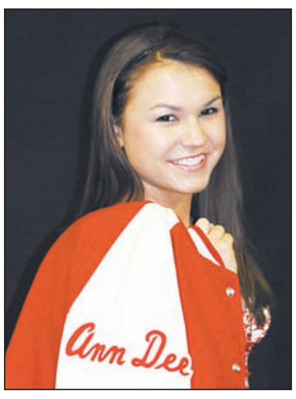
Aaron Webster Ross Chalakee

School: Manzano High
Parents: Jeffrey Chalakee and Randy Pedro
Grandparents: Billy and the late Mollie Chalakee and Ellen and Morris Gatewood
Great Grandparents: Webster Chalakee and Martha (Bird) Chalakee
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town: Thlopthlocco
Awards: Lettered in Guitar
Future Plans: He plans to attend college in the fall at either the University of New Mexico, New Mexico State University, Oklahoma State University, or Ft.Lewis College in Durango, Colorado. He plans to either study Teacher Education or Culinary Arts.

Cade Colburn

School: Checotah High
Parents: Lance and Tabby Colburn
Grandparents: Sue Henson and the Late David Henson
Great Grandparents: Vernon and Naggie Bear-Wilbanks
Awards: BPA - Treasurer, Vice-Pres. of TSA, Student Council Rep. as well as the Co-Captain of the Checotah Wildcat Basketball team all while fullfilling his duties as the Editor & Chief of the Checotah Times & Democat school newspaper.
Future Plans: He plans to attend Connors and then transfer to O.U. to Graduate with a degree in Physical Therapy.

AnnDee Lee



School: Prague High
Parents: Andrew and Sharon Lee
Grandparents: Dean and Cheryl Lee and Joyce Leister
Great Grandparents: the late J.W. and Audrey Lee
Awards: OU President's Community Scholars Award (PCS), OU Scholars Valedictorian Scholar, Award, OU's Sooner Opportunity Scholarship, Prague Kiwanis Scholarship, Klabzuba, Family OU Scholarship, Masonic Lodge Outstanding Senior Award, New Dominions, Scholarship, Vision Bank Outstanding Sr. Scholarship and Prague Community Hospital Scholarship
Future Plans: She is now employed at the Prague Community Hospital where she will continue to work on weekends and summers during college. She plans on attending OU and major in Pre-Med. She would like to become a Pediatrician.

Jason Smith

School: East Central University
Parents: Bruce and Vicky Smith
Grandparents: the late Willis and Sarah Riley Smith and the late Virgil and Bonnie Crowden
Clan: Raccoon
Tribal Town: Tukvpvtce
Awards: Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration.

Christina Renee Carden

School: University of Oklahoma
Parents: Beverly and Jeff Carden
Grandparents: Sue Conpier Morgan and the late Leland Morgan
Great Grandparents: the late Kizzie and Willie Conpier
Clan: Wind
Awards: Cum Laude
Activities: Assistant coach for fast pitch softball at Rose State College.
Future Plans: She plans to return to O.U. an obtain her Ph.D

Kathleen Suzanne Carden

School: Rose State College
Parents: Beverly and Jeff Carden
Grandparents: Sue Conpier Morgan and the late Leland Morgan
Great Grandparents: the late Kizzie and Willie Conpier
Clan: Wind
Awards: Phi THeta Kappa and Who's Who in American College
Activities: played fast pitch softball at Rose State for two years.
Future Plans: She is currently enrolled at the University of Oklahoma in American Indian Studies and Nursing degree.

Natasha Ann Solomon

School: Community Care College
Parents: Robert and Leah Soloman
Grandparents: the late Hully and Pauline Solomon and the late Walter Lewis Sr. and Mary Ann Lewis
Awards: Presidents, Instructers, Academic Honor Roll and associate of Applied Science Degree

Tanya Horton

School: Northeastern State University
Parents: Don and Jona Rade
Grandparents: the late Marshall and Pansy Grayson and Steve and Ella Rade
Great Grandparents: the late Joe and Alice (Marshall) Grayson
Clan: Turtle
Awards: Master of Education, graduated with a 4.0, received a Bachelor of Business Admin, degree in 1995 from NSU Talequah
Future Plans: To pursue a career in education and to someday be an employee of Creek Nation College.

Corey Brandon Cole

School: Glenpool High
Parent: Tami Witt
Grandparents: Jeanie and Danny Mullin
Great Grandparents: Joseph and Mary McIntosh
Awards: Lettered in football and received state championship ring.
Future Plans: He plans to attend Haskell University in Lawrence, Kan.

BIRTHS

Hvsotte Sannie Yahola

OKLAHOMA CITY — Hvsotte Sannie Yahola was born June 2, at St. Anthony's Hospital.

She weighed eight pounds eight ounces and was 19 1/2 inches in length.

She is the daughter of Bryan Yahola and Martha Simpson.

She has three siblings; Meske, Felicity, Mia and Mehenwv.

Grandparents are Mildred Yahola and the late John Bender and Rose Mary Phillips and William Simpson-Harjo.

She is of the Penwv (Turkey) Clan and the Nuyaka Ceremonial Town.

BIRTHDAYS

Mia Kepalv Olea

OKMULGEE — Mia Kepalv Olea celebrated her seventh birthday with a SpongeBob themed swimming party on June 27.

She is the daughter of Bryan Yahola and Martha Simpson.

She has two siblings; Meske, Felicity, Hvsotte and Mehenwv.

Grandparents are Mildred Yahola and the late John Bender and Rose Mary Phillips and William Simpson-Harjo.

She is of the Penwv (Turkey) Clan and the Nuyaka Ceremonial Town.

Rylan Judson Deere

OKMULGEE — Rylan Judson Deere celebrated his second birthday with a Go Diego Go themed swimming party on April 26.

He is the son of Hillary Martin.

Grandparents are Peggy Martin and David and Jaki Martin.

Great grandparents are Cecil and Ethelea Martin and Claudie and Alice Fields.

He is of the Deer Clan and the Hickory Ground Tribal Town.

Dayne Allen Billie

OKMULGEE — Dayne Allen Billie celebrated his forth birthday on June 15, with a Monster Jam themed party at Dave and Busters.

He is the son of Allen Mark and Mary Billie.

He has one siblings; Tana Bear-Osceola

Grandparents are the late Susanna Bear and Lon Bear and Thomas and Jane Bilie.

He attends Ahfachkee Day School.

He is of the Wind Clan.

SPOTLIGHT

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

As I begin this column the sun is coming up over Albuquerque. My earliest memories on this earth are of the sun. I am in my mother's kitchen in Tulsa sitting in my red high chair. Sun is a bright being. I see the sun's breath as a stream of light filled with energy. I love nothing better than to be inside it, to breathe it. When I was five I noticed that my pet dog Alligator also loved the sun and curled up into a circle where it warmed the ground. This morning I need the recharge, the illumination, and the words from the sun reminding me to keep going, to keep compassion in my heart no matter the challenges. And there are challenges. We all know them, share them, labor under them and emerge from them stronger, with the insight we need to grow. We live in complicated times.

When I return to the time of that child in the high chair, life was deep and complex, yet simple. There was no television blasting and our minds hadn't yet been wrapped with the tentacles of need for the Internet, computers, or computer games. I remember my mother singing, often to the radio. Pop and dessert were treats, not daily addictions. Yet, those times weren't perfect. My family had the usual problems that besiege Indian country residents. What was foremost was the presence of the sky and earth, and having the time to listen, to hear.

Last month I made it back to Oklahoma, and ran around the nation as I usually do when I'm home. I am planning a writing, music and performance program for tribal students to begin next year. Several of us met over at the Café on the Square for lunch to talk about it. I got excellent input from all those present, including Rebecca Landsberry, Angel Ellis, Angela Bunner, James King, Lee Longhorn, Ted Isham, Rosemary McCombs Maxey, and Margaret Barrows. Then I made it over to the College of the Muscogee Nation and was given a tour by Angela Bunner. I'm impressed by the progress there. I'd love to take the language classes with Norma Marshall. I also visited Weogufkee church with Rosemary Maxey. The roof of the church didn't fall in, as I predicted, and I met some wonderful people and especially enjoyed the meal after.

Finally, at least we have a tribe. According to a letter June 24th from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Cherokee no longer have a tribe. They were pronounced dead, as of the 1907 rolls. U.S. Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, Larry Echo-Hawk wrote that the historic Cherokee Nation as it existed in 1934 no longer exists as a distinct political entity because Congress closed tribal rolls in 1907. "After 103 years, few, if any, or its members are still alive," he states. "Even though the historical CN no longer exists, its sovereignty continues in the descendents of its members who have reorganized as the UKB (United Keetoowah Band) and the CNO (Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma)."

We live in complicated times. I think I'll just stay here, curled up in the sun for a little while, before heading out into the long day.

Commemorating a decade

• Indian House recording celebrates 10th anniversary

Photograph submitted by Tony Issacs

Pictured above is the cover art for Indian House's collection of stomp dance music titled "Stomp Dance Songs of the Muscogee Nation Volume One," by Tony Issacs which celebrates a decade of production in 2009.

by Lee Longhorn
MNN Intern

OKMULGEE — This July marks the tenth anniversary of the most recent collection of stomp dance music produced by Tony Isaacs of Indian House, Stomp Dance Songs of the Muscogee Nation Volume One and Volume Two. Recorded on July 18, 1999 at the Muscogee Nation Omniplex, the audio CD and cassette collection features the extraordinary music of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The recording features a diverse style of stomp dance leading and shell shaking. This collection brought together a vast array of Creek people to contribute . Ceremonial Grounds and tribal towns represented include Duck Creek, Fish Pond, Green Leaf, Kialegee, Muddy Waters, New Tulsa, Nuyaka, Okfuskee, Peach Ground, and Sand Creek.

This featured collection of songs also brought the future of stomp dance listening and learning. Tony Isaacs, who produced and recorded this collection of stomp dance songs as well as others, says "These recordings help them [young people] get started. Recordings like these help them carry the tradition on." The recording was made possible with the help of Ruth Bible, Alexis Crosley, and Joe Sulphur.

Bible, a Muscogee (Creek) citizen says "Growing up, we always listened to these recordings everywhere, like in Dallas traffic... everywhere. These recordings reminded me and others of home. They remind us of where we come from and about who we are. Our mom had the original recordings. We always listened to them, she never let us forget where we came from."

The collection also is a memorial and tribute to those who have passed on. Leaders and shell shakers who have passed on, leave behind a legacy and a small part of themselves, their songs, style of leading or style of shell shaking on the recording.

Anyone interested in purchasing Stomp Dance Songs of the Muscogee Nation Volumes One and Two, can order them through indianhouse.com or at the Muscogee (Creek) senior gift shop at the complex in Okmulgee.

> *"These recordings reminded me and others of home. They remind us of where we come from and about who we are."*
> - Ruth Bible, Muscogee (Creek) citizen

Creek playwright prepares for debut

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

TULSA — The difficulties of living in two worlds are often complicating and can even feel like one's very soul is being robbed. An individual who is of different races can struggle to make peace with both as well as learning to live in an outside world. A world that will sometimes want to label the individual as merely one race.

Artists are often able to present and express their feelings about this complex subject, Okcate Smith has done just that.

Smith is a Muscogee (Creek) citizen who moved from Georgia, with her family, in 2005, "To be closer to my tribe and both my mother's and father's extended family," says Smith, and because my sister and I wanted to attend the University of Tulsa, my family and I decided to move to Tulsa." Smith's mother is Margo Smith and she grew up in the Dustin and Henryetta area. "I transferred to the University of Tulsa in January 2006 and graduated with a BA in Theatre Performance and a minor in Women's Studies in December 2009. I am the Artistic Director and Office Administrator of ThunderRoad Theater Company."

With the help of the ThunderRoad Theatre Company, Smith is preparing to bring a play called 'Molly has her say' to Tulsa, the play will debut on July 10th at the Nightingale Theatre and will go until July 12. The theatre is located at 1416 E. 4th street.

"I was inspired by the story itself. The script is a relevant one and needs to be told," says Smith. "It is about Molly Marie, a young woman grappling with her identity as a half Indian, half Caucasian graduate student in today's modern society. She is attempting to move forward in her life without embracing who she is, who her ancestors are, and the history of her tribe and family. We find her at a crossroads at the beginning of the play. Seeing her struggle, her Muscogee ancestors have sent Molly Oske, the spirit of her Great Grandmother to show and help her re-discover who she is and to help her find peace of mind and purpose."

Smith says she can definitely relate to the main character in this play. "I found this story relatable on many levels. As I too come from a mixed background of Muscogee, Mexican, and European decent, I have had times in my life where I feel like I am forced to label myself as one type of ethnicity, caught in an "either/or" situation. I also am very familiar with the world of academia, and while I find that it is a wonderful experience and much can be gained from it, but without acknowledging who one is, it will become an escape from who one is instead of an enhancement to one's life."

But Smith still had a lot of work to do on the original adaptation to make it fit and relate closer to home, with the help of noted Native playwright Julie Little Thunder and others, it began to work. "Though I enjoy the original Abenaki version of the script, Julie LittleThunder and I decided that the story could become more relevant to this part of Oklahoma if we adapted the stories, songs and language to reflect the Muscogee culture.

With the permission of the playwright, Margaret Bruchac, the consultation of George Coser and the dramaturgical input of Julie, I adapted it into the play ThunderRoad is presenting in July."

Smith says that she also works on her own stories and has adapted some for theatre and screen as well.

"I am an actor and am pursuing a career in performance, on stage, film and in the voice industry. I also continue and plan to continue to write dramatic works. In August 2009, I am attending the VASTA (Voice and Speech Trainers Association) conference held in NYC to further my knowledge in voice and speech training.

"Also, I am working with Ben Yahola and the 2009 Muscogee Nation Diabetes Summit. We will be conducting a workshop based in theatrical exercises. Our goal in the workshop is to equip those with diabetes or affected by diabetes with creative tools to fight the disease in life . I have applied to the Harwelden Artists in the Schools program in Tulsa and hope to work with the youth this year, encouraging their development in the arts. I would like to take ThunderRoad Theater to schools in Tulsa and other parts of Oklahoma to inspire students to pursue careers in the arts. I would like to help banish the idea that an artistic career is not a viable one or that it "won't pay off" in one's life. Art is a integral part of people's psyche and needs to be cultivated and encouraged in the world today."

OKLAHOMA Arts COUNCIL

OBITUARIES

JEFFERY PATTERSON

BRISTOW — Jeffery Jerome Buckley Patterson entered this life on October 16, 1979. He departed this life on Monday April 20, at Saint Johns Hospital in Tulsa at the age of 29 years.

Growing up around the Bristow area Jeff attended Kellyville School. He graduated in 1999. Jeff obtained a degree in Telemarketing and a few other trades but he liked being a cook. He was employed at Sonic Drive-In in Bristow.

In June 2004 Jeff and Tonya Howell were united in marriage. Later the marriage drifted apart.

In 2003 Jeff was baptized at the Buckeye Church in IxL.

He loved to watch boxing, listening to music, and playing video games. Most of all he loved to spend time with brother and friends.

He also enjoyed attending church with his grandma Alice. Jeff is greatly missed by all who knew him. He was a kind person

He is survived by his mother Carmela Cook of Kellyville, father Mark A. Patterson of Tulsa, brother Larry Lucas Cook of Kellyville, maternal grandmother Alice Lindsey of Bristow, paternal grandparents Janice Shope of Hetotes, Texas and Gary Patterson of Tulsa, former wife Tonya S. Howell of Glenpool and a host of other family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his grandfather Thomas J. Linsey and Louis Coffey. Great grandma Fannie McNac Buckley and Sam Buckley of Weleetka.

Jeff's funeral was on April 25 with a supporting speech and prayer were given by Tim Coon of Buckeye Church in IXL. Burial followed at the Buckley Family Cemetery in rural Weleetka.

LILLIAN ELLIS CROW

TWIN HILLS — Lillian was born April 11, 1914 to Abner Doolie Ellis and Nellie Bruner Ellis.

Lillian was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Herman Crow, 3 brothers Jacob B., Willie, and Richard Ellis; 1 sister Pandora Parsons.

She is survived by one brother A. D. Ellis and wife Gail; two sisters Dorothy Meyer of Twin Hills; Nellie (Susie) Burke and husband Dave of Ft. Worth, TX. , one sister-in-law Laura Bell Ellis of Twin Hills and a host of family and friends.

Lillian retired from Safeway and Teamsters Union in 1977. She was a member of the Muskogee American Legion, the Okmulgee V.F.W. and the ladies auxiliary, and a member of Winnebago International Travelers of the United States, Mexico, Alaska, including eight foreign countries and seven islands. She also did volunteer work at the VA Medical Center in Muskogee, Okla., as well as many nursing homes. She is a member of the Concharty Methodist Church.

Lillian passed away at home, on the family allotment, on Bixby Road, June 20, 2009.

Services were held at Floral Haven Cemetery Chapel, June 23, 2009.

JOSEPHINE NANCY NILIMA

BRISTOW — Josephine Nancy Nilima was born February 1, 1926 in Castle, Oklahoma to Allie & Nessie Davis. She departed this life June 12, 2009 in Tulsa, Oklahoma at the age of 83 years, 4 months, and 11 days.

Josephine graduated from Sequoyah High School and later finished nursing school in Tacoma, Washington. She retired as a LPN where she worked at Bonair Hospital in California over 30 years. She then moved to Bristow where she had lived for 20 years. She attended Bristow Christian Center. Her hobbies consisted of working in the yard, cooking, walking, reading books, and most of all spending time with her family.

She is survived by four daughters, Glenda Jacobs of Norwalk, California, Teresa Nilima of Sapulpa, Oklahoma, Jacquelin Atencio of Calnoga Park, California and Gwendolyn Sinohui of Sapulpa, Oklahoma. One brother, Billy Davis of Eufaula, Oklahoma. She was preceded in death by her parents, four sisters, Lena, Nancy, Leah, & Jeanetta. One brother, Jesse.

Funeral services were on Friday, June 19, 2009 at the Greenleaf Baptist Church in Okemah, Oklahoma. Committal services will follow at the Johnson family cemetery near Cromwell, Oklahoma.

THANK YOU

OKMULGEE — The family of Jeffery Jerome Patterson would like to express their special thanks and thoughtfulness to the preachers who came to speak at the wake service and for the prayers and support.

Also to all friends and relatives who attended and sent cards or flowers. Many thanks to Second Chief Alfred Berryhill and staff with the support of the Spirit House.

Thank you again and God bless you for your help during our hour of need.

GABRIEL BIBLE

TULSA — Gabriel Phillip Bible, passed away on Sunday, June 21, 2009, in his home in Tulsa, OK at the age of 31. He was born December 18, 1977, in Claremore, OK. He had a love for animals and always went out of his way to help and care for them. He enjoyed both listening to and writing music. He also spent a great deal of his time writing about the things around him.

He is survived by: his parents, Larry and Shelly Bible; children, Steven Dunson and Amanda Bible; brothers, Jarod and Larry Bible, Jr.; sister, Andrea Brengard; nephews, Cole Brengard and Cale Bible; and niece, Alexandria Brengard, and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins. We will miss your quirky sense of humor and your mischievous grin. Let now your soul rest in Peace, and know we will love and miss you until we meet you once again. He was preceded in death by: grandparents, Donald and Daisy Lewis, Andy and JoAnn Bible; and his daughter, Destiny Joy Bible. Memorial service was scheduled on Friday, June 26, 2009, at Floral Haven Funeral Home Chapel, Broken Arrow, OK.

MITCHELL DEPRIEST

BIXBY — Mitchell DePriest was born on March 1, 1928 in Eufaula to Ruford DePriest and Anna (Blackwell) DePriest. He passed from this life on June 5 in Tulsa at the age of 81 years, three months and four days.

Mitchell had been a resident of the Bixby area since 1959. He was proud to have served his country as a member of the United States Army. He retired after working more than 30 years as the Stationary Engineer for St. john's Hospital. He was an active and devoted member of the South Heights Assembly of God Church and would preach when called upon and even delivered a sermonette very recently at a family reunion. Among many other things he will be remembered by his family as a master mechanic and for his loves of horses, tractors, and going to auctions and garage sales.

He is survived by his loving wife of almost 60 years, Verda B. (Dotson) DePriest, whom he married on November 23, 1949 in Muscogee, Okla. He is also survived by two sons; Michael DePriest and wife Shelly of Glenpool and Darryl DePriest and wife Hope of Muscogee, two daughters; Linda McGuire and husband Mike of Sapulpa and Brenda Piles and her husband Dale Piles of Chesterfield, Mo., four sisters; Billie Sue Barnett of Tulsa, Betty Chapman of Tulsa, Virginia Morgan of Burbank, Cali., and Lowetta Samuels of Glenpool, eight grandchildren; Josh, Sheena, Tyler, Megan, Aaron, Elizabeth, Jason and Jessica, a great-grand daughter Ariana and several nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. He was precded in death by three brothers, James, Ray and Othal DePriest and two sisters; Geneva Logsdon and Barbara Witt.

VERNON BEAR

SAPULPA — Vernon Lee Bear, 75, of Sapulpa, passed away Friday, June 26, 2009, at the Midwest City Regional Hospital. Vernon was born on January 8, 1934, in Eufaula, Oklahoma, the son of John Wallace Bear and Tookah Billy. He enlisted in the United States Air Force and was honorably discharged. He worked as a short order cook.

Survivors include: his sons, Michael Vernon Bear and John Wallace Owens and a daughter, Donna Myers of Ada; six grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his parents, four sisters and one grandson, Matthew Bau James in 2005.

A wake service was held 7 p.m., Monday, June 29, 2009, at the Okfuskee Indian Baptist Church. Funeral services were held 2 p.m., Tuesday, June 30, 2009, at the Okfuskee Indian Baptist Church with Reverend Raymond Beaver officiating. Burial followed at the Okfuskee Cemetery with the Muscogee Creek Honor Guard providing military honors. Services were under the direction of Hunn, Black & Merritt Funeral Home and Crematory.

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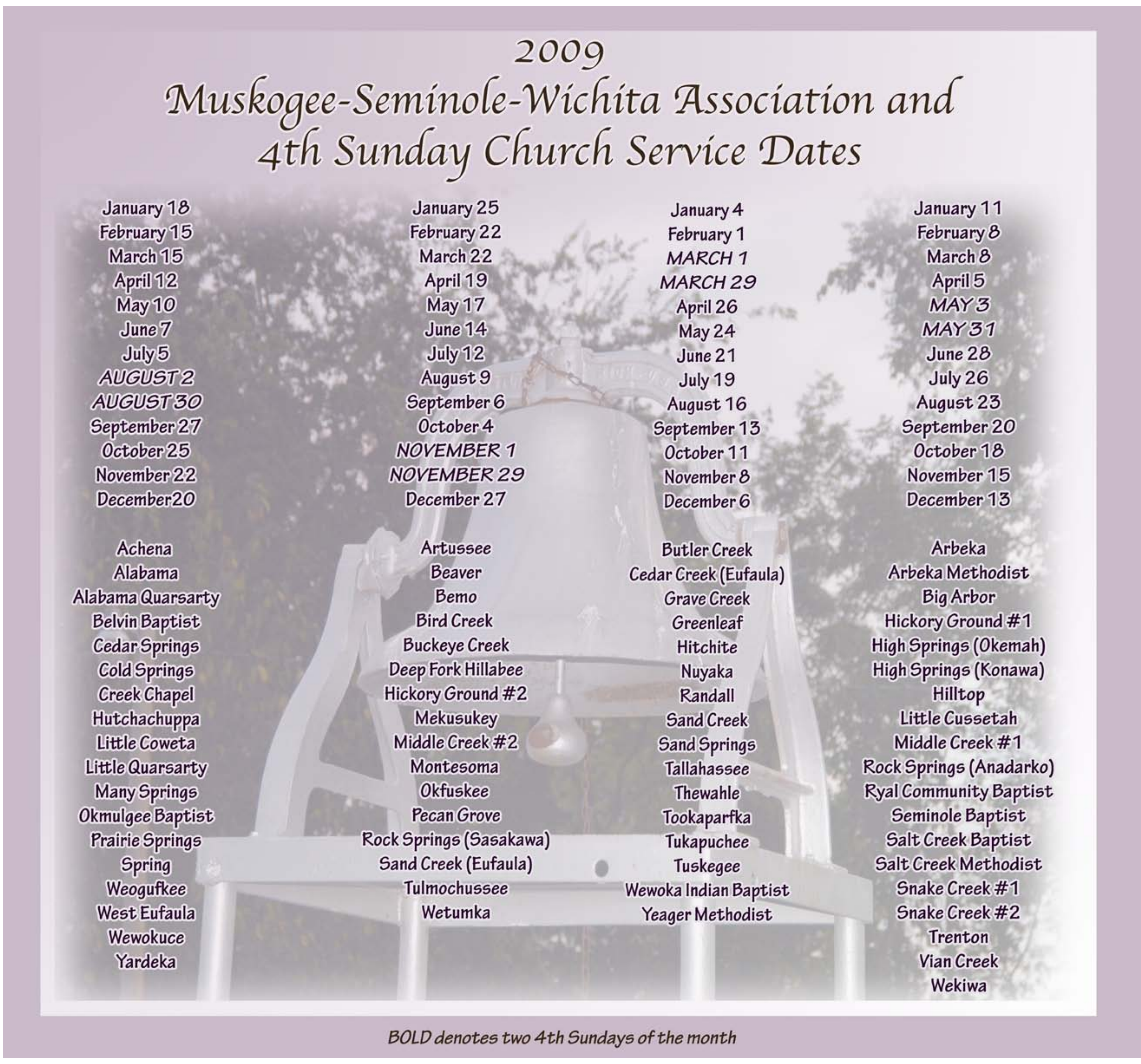

2009
Muskogee-Seminole-Wichita Association and
4th Sunday Church Service Dates

January 18
February 15
March 15
April 12
May 10
June 7
July 5
AUGUST 2
AUGUST 30
September 27
October 25
November 22
December20

Achena
Alabama
Alabama Quarsarty
Belvin Baptist
Cedar Springs
Cold Springs
Creek Chapel
Hutchachuppa
Little Coweta
Little Quarsarty
Many Springs
Okmulgee Baptist
Prairie Springs
Spring
Weogufkee
West Eufaula
Wewokuce
Yardeka

January 25
February 22
March 22
April 19
May 17
June 14
July 12
August 9
September 6
October 4
NOVEMBER 1
NOVEMBER 29
December 27

Artussee
Beaver
Bemo
Bird Creek
Buckeye Creek
Deep Fork Hillabee
Hickory Ground #2
Mekusukey
Middle Creek #2
Montesoma
Okfuskee
Pecan Grove
Rock Springs (Sasakawa)
Sand Creek (Eufaula)
Tulmochussee
Wetumka

January 4
February 1
MARCH 1
MARCH 29
April 26
May 24
June 21
July 19
August 16
September 13
October 11
November 8
December 6

Butler Creek
Cedar Creek (Eufaula)
Grave Creek
Greenleaf
Hitchite
Nuyaka
Randall
Sand Creek
Sand Springs
Tallahassee
Thewahle
Tookaparfka
Tukapuchee
Tuskegee
Wewoka Indian Baptist
Yeager Methodist

January 11
February 8
March 8
April 5
MAY 3
MAY 31
June 28
July 26
August 23
September 20
October 18
November 15
December 13

Arbeka
Arbeka Methodist
Big Arbor
Hickory Ground #1
High Springs (Okemah)
High Springs (Konawa)
Hilltop
Little Cussetah
Middle Creek #1
Rock Springs (Anadarko)
Ryal Community Baptist
Seminole Baptist
Salt Creek Baptist
Salt Creek Methodist
Snake Creek #1
Snake Creek #2
Trenton
Vian Creek
Wekiwa

BOLD denotes two 4th Sundays of the month

SPORTS

Warrior's Society uses sports to support

• Native American Warrior's Society sends care packages to Native troops

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

TULSA — U.S. troops stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan survive each day of their lives sacrificing for a cause greater than themselves. That sacrifice becomes more taxing on these soldiers when, at times, they are forced to rely solely on themselves for support. Which, in turn, makes thoughtful acts from home that much more special. One group of citizens has recognized this, and is doing its part to bring a little "home" to the troops abroad.

The Native American Warriors Society is a group in the Tulsa area, which coordinate and prepare the sending of care packages to Native American troops that are currently stationed abroad in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Items in these care packages include basic needs as well as entertainment and leisure time items such as books, radios and jump ropes. The Warriors Society is totally volunteer, with most members taking time out of their daily lives to ensure that just a few items from home to get through the days will make a significant difference in a soldier's state of mind.

The items, however, are not free. With that in mind, the N.A.W.S., has begun fundraisers to drum up support for it's monthly projects. Last month, a pool tournament was held at Magoo's in Tulsa that drew over fifty native players from four different states.

The winners of the men's division were Charley LaSarge (First), Herman Harjo (Second), William Coleman (Third) and Lee Moses (Fourth).

In the Women's Division it was Carlene Echohawk taking the championship with Donna Gibson finishing as runner-up.

This month there will be a golf tournament July 17, beginning with an 8:30 a.m., shotgun start at the Cherokee Hills Golf Club in Catoosa. The format is a four-person scramble and entry will include lunch as well as other gifts and prizes from the Society and Cherokee Hills.

Photos courtesy of Andra Freeman

Pictured above are participants in the first annual pool tournament sponsored by the Native American Warrior's Society.

LEFT TOP: Carlene Echohawk took top prize in the women's division of the pool tournament trailed closely by Donna Gibson finishing.

LEFT BOTTOM: In the men's division, it was Charley LaSarge who came out on top, followed by Herman Harjo, William Coleman and Lee Moses.

Prizes will be awarded to first and second place teams and a prize for longest drive and closest to the pin will also be given away during the event. A hole-in-one will either win participants a trip to Branson, Mo., or Rancho Viejo for a vacation getaway.

Tribal governments and entities have shown support for the society thus far, with Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise, the Sac & Fox Nation and the Keetoowah Band of Cherokees all making contributions, but there are more soldiers being sent overseas every day, thus increasing the need for any and all support from all tribal nations.

Mvto to Amini's Galleria for the pool stick/scratcher that they donated; to Donald "Butch" McIntosh of Tulsa for the bead work done on the stick and to Florida Seminole Tribe Chairman Mitchell Cypress for the Seminole Jackets. River Spirit Casino also donated $10 match play for all participants. Cliff Doyeto - Kiowa Artists donated his Artwork Donations can be made in the form of money or package items from the list by calling Janene Alford at (918) 587-1109 or Y. Cahwee at (918) 946-8024.

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XVI ANNIVERSARY Gold Rush

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Reg. Pack games - $16 pays $1,016
Play in a Casino Tournament for your chance at a 2010 Chevrolet Camaro

XVI ANNIVERSARY JULY 25th

Pastoral appointments for Creek churches within the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference

by Josephine Deere
Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference

ANADARKO — The Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference's 2009 Annual Conference was held at the Southwest Region Center outside of Anadarko, Oklahoma June 4-7. The theme for this years' conference was "Come to the Table." The worship table was the same table that was used at the denominations General Conference in 2008 and was made from trees that had been uprooted/destroyed by Hurricane Katrina on the grounds of Gulfside Retreat Center at Gulfside, Mississippi.

Delegates approved a $1,125,624 budget for 2010, voted on constitutional amendments, heard reports on the progress of the Conference and were inspired by great preaching, worship and fellowship. Bishop Robert E. Hayes, Jr., inspired the conference with his preaching. He encouraged and reminded the conference on Sunday morning that ministry in the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference is not about just the pastor or lay persons; it is about working together for the sake of the gospel. The conference also passed two resolutions; one to set aside a Sunday in September as a recognition/awareness day of Volunteers in Mission and the other was in supporting legislation against Indian mascots and team names

One of the highlights of the conference is the reading of appointments which is done at the close of the conference right before noon on Sunday. The following are the appointments made for the churches that are within the Muscogee Creek Nation.

Arbeka UMC, Abraham Jackson; Big Cussetah UMC and Concharty UMC, Newman Frank, Jr.; Broken Arrow UMC, Anna Stilwell; Choska UMC and Mutteloke UMC, Phil Whinery; Christ UMC, Eli McHenry; Davis Chapel UMC, Ben Ewing, Jr.; Fife Memorial UMC, Jerry Byrd; Glenpool Fellowship, Bernadine Dowdy; Grant Chapel UMC, Josephine Deere; Haikey Chapel UMC and Springtown UMC, July Tecumseh; Honey Creek UMC, V. Mike Harjo; Little Cussetah UMC, Judy Aaron; Newtown UMC, David Dunson; Pickett Chapel UMC, Nelson Harjo, Sr.; Salt Creek UMC, Mildred Harjo; Springfield UMC and Thlopthlocco, David Little; Thewarley UMC and Yeager UMC, Kenrick Boyiddle; Tulsa Indian UMC, Don Jones; and Wewoka Indian UMC, James Smith.

Elections

Continued from B1

Filing fees for National Council seats are set at $200 and there will be a candidate fair on Mon., July 6, 2009 at the Mound Building from 10 a.m., to noon. Filing dates are July 20-22, 2009 and will be held from 9 a.m., to 4 p.m., at locations to be announced at a later date (no exceptions).

The seats open for re-election at this time are National Council Seats B, D and F. In order to file for a seat, potential candidates will need a tribal enrollment card, cashier's check or money order for the fee amount ($200), Muscogee (Creek) Nation voter registration card and verification of one year residence which must be two (2) of the following documents: Income tax return for the preceding year; homestead exemption or copy of property tax; copy of household deed or statement from Creek Nation Housing containing dates of residency; If renting, a notarized statement from the landlord containing dates of residency and landlord's address and phone number; utility bill in candidate's name.

NOTICE:

Title 19, Sec. 5-102 of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code Annotated states that immediately after filing for candidacy, an employee shall take leave without pay from employment with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, including a corporation, chartered community board and employees, agency or other entity which is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Immediately after an employee files for candidacy, the appropriate Muscogee (Creek) Nation Personnel Office shall place the employee in non-pay status until the first working day after the primary election, or in the event the employee is in a run-off, until the first official working day after the general election.

For additional information, please contact the MCN Election Board at (918) 732-7684 or toll free at 1-800-482-1979.

Radio

Continued from B1

His background, experience and expertise are invaluable to the program and to him MFSI extends a huge MVTO.

Mark, the DJ/station manager, had his beginnings in radio back in Tennessee on the farm where he managed one of the earliest low-power radio stations in the country.

In 1973 he and others put together a small radio station, WUTZ in Summertown, Tenn., that was loaded down barb-wired fence and telephone wire for transmission. They later established an independent station in Lake Atilan in Solola, Guatamala providing communication for villages around the large, beautiful lake. The villages surrounding the lake had no electricity and had to walk out for news.This station was their first communication tool. Later, in the mid 70's, he worked to create the first Native community radio station, Lakota KILI, the first all-Indian station outside the Navajo Radio station area. He also helped the Oneida Nation with their radio station.

Throughout the 80s and 90s, Madrid worked in television with the Seminole Tribe of Florida, trained with Florida Motion Picture and Television Advisory Council and worked on various movie sets and television programs for twenty years. In Florida, his team created a television cable channel for all five reservations in Florida and produced shows for the cable channel including a kids show called Nagen Mackv with language lessons in Miccosukee and Mvskoke. He had input on the development of the Seminole tribe's radio station for the remote Big Cypress community which later turned over the licensing to the Immakalee Field Workers. Before moving back home to Oklahoma and Creek Country, he spent some more time at the Tennessee Farm station revitalizing its equipment, format, shows and programming.

MFSI is very lucky that Mark has taken an interest in our work and is now volunteering his time to make our webcast a reality. He is broadcasting 24 hours a day 7 days a week as MFSI Radio. It is live streaming on the internet from our "studio" in his home "studio city, high on the hill in Hectorville, Oklahoma." You can hear an eclectic mix of independent Indian music, including Mvskoke songs and flute, rock, country, blues and folk.

In between songs you will get Mvskoke language lessons, stories in Mvskoke language, gardening tips, Oklahoma farm news, progressive news, Democracy Now and much more.

It is easy to connect to this online radio. Go online on any server (Firefox, Yahoo, Safari, etc) Google Mvskoke Food which will lead you to the Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative Web site, www.mvskokefood.org.

Open that site and click on "Click here to listen to our new streaming radio" and it will open in Windows Media Player or iTunes or what ever media application you use.

If you need an application to listen, follow the instructions that pop up to install a media player application on your computer. All applications have a free version. If your application opens and doesn't start playing, just double click and the broadcast should open and automatically play. If you can't get it with these instructions, find a young person to help, so tune in soon and enjoy!

HIYUSE - LITTLE HARVEST MONTH

THE MNN

• EXTRA EDITION •

PRSRT FIRST CLASS
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PERMIT NO. 1541
Okla City, OK

Volume 2, Issue 6 www.themuscogeecreeknation.com July 2009

Rebecca Landsberry

Letter from the Editor:

Hensci readers! By now I hope you have all recovered from the madness that is the Creek Festival. For me, James Otto rocked the house, but I'm still a little sad that I didn't get to try an Indian taco from all the booths. I guess you win some and you lose some.

Speaking of winners, all of them are here in the 2009 Festival Wrap-Up Extra Edition. Competition was fierce this year (Jason's team placed fourth in fastpitch, sorry guys) but everyone put on a good show as always.

For August's MNN, we are working on a back-to-school edition with tips, lists and everything in between to help you and your family get ready for the upcoming academic year. Whether you're on your way to the University or teetering into a classroom for the first time, there is sure to be a few programs, services and activities that you can take advantage of here at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Flip the paper over for a look at what will be a very exciting event for parents and kids coming up next month on August 6. The "Back-to-School Splash" will help get the kiddies looking good (with free haircuts) while also making sure they can actually see the chalk board (with free vision screenings).

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

• Welcome from Miss Muscogee

Welcome from 2009 - 2010 Miss Muscogee Rochelle Werito
FESTIVAL - 3

• 2009 Creek Festival wrap-up
Final results and winners
FESTIVAL - 4

CVKOTAKSE SECCVLKE HOSTS SUCCESSFUL

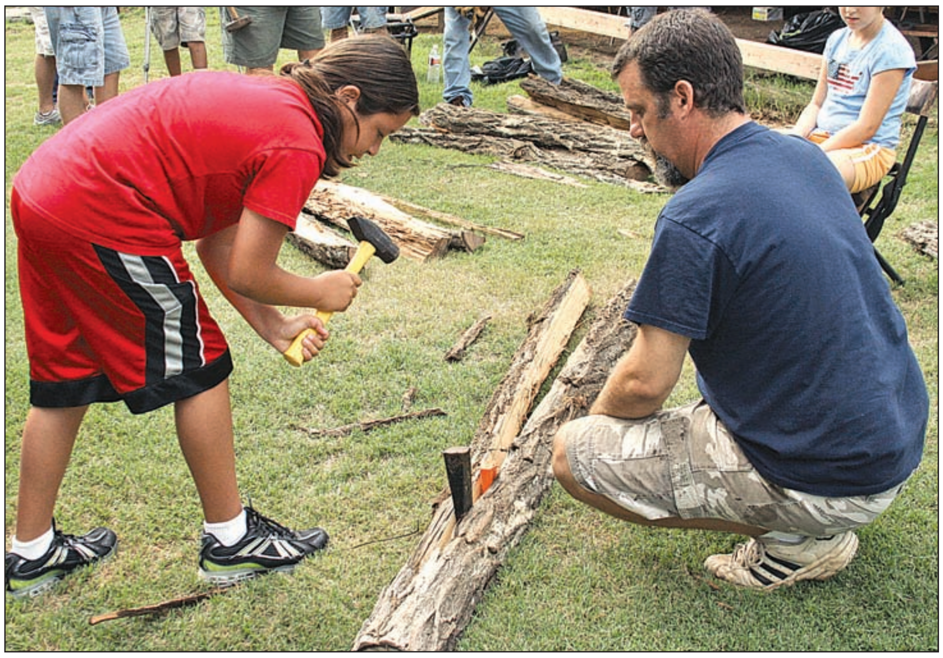
BOW-MAKING WORKSHOP

by Vern Courtwright
Cvkotakse Seccvlke

OKMULGEE — Like making a traditional bow-string, which weaves many small thin pieces of sinew into one strong strand, the few, thin strands of knowledge by which Creek bow-making was hanging, were strengthened significantly last Saturday, July 11, by each of the 29 people who turned out for the first ever Creek bow-making workshop at the hilltop workshop of Mike Berryhill, located just south of Okmulgee.

Fulfilling a wish held deep in the heart of not only Mr. Berryhill but others who helped organize it, the event left little doubt as to the future of making traditional or "stick" bows in the Creek Nation. It is now assured that there will be a continuation, as these men, women and a few children began the pain-staking and labor-intensive task of transforming a piece of seasoned bark-covered wood into a sturdy, practical tool capable of launching an arrow accurately and piercing a target 100 yards away.

Participants were met with a cooling breeze, lots of first-hand knowledge about wood, hand tools and given the opportunity to learn the art from one of the last remaining Creek bow-makers. The work was hard and time consuming, as participants started out by picking out a piece of seasoned wood, which sometimes needed to be split further, before they could begin to take the bark off their future bows. Under the guidance of Berryhill, participants worked diligently toward their goals, even though the finished product was still many hours away.



Okmulgee Daily Times/*Paul A. Orosco*
Pictured above are participants in Cvkotakse Seccvlke's bow-making workshop held earlier this month in Living Legend Mike Berryhill's workshop in Okmulgee.

As future workshops are completed, participants will learn how to make their own arrows and bowstrings and ultimately be given the opportunity to use the finished product to shoot competitively at the Cvkotakse Seccvlke (Creek Bowshooters Society) bow range at the tribal complex in Okmulgee.

The next workshop will again be held at Berryhill's workshop in Okmulgee at 9 a.m., July 25, followed by the monthly Cvkotakse Seccvlke bowshoot on August 1. For information call (918) 527-5895 or e-mail nativeheart@valornet.com.

Back-to-School Splash to offer free eye exams, haircuts and fun

Media Release
MCN Tobacco Prevention Program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program will be hosting a "Back to School Splash" event Thursday, Aug. 6, from 10 a.m., to 1 p.m.

The event will feature games, door prizes, water slides, haircuts and a health fair offering free vision screenings for youth ages three to 21, with a valid Creek citizenship card.

The goal of this tobacco-free event is to:

- Prevent initiation of tobacco use among young people
- Eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke
- Recruit new Muscogee (Creek) Nation SWAT (Students Working Against Tobacco) members and partners
- Collaborate with MCN Health and Tribal programs
- Encourage tribal citizens to maintain healthy lifestyles.

To help encourage the participants, door prizes will be given throughout the event and the Tobacco Prevention Program will also be conducting a youth survey for participants to receive backpacks.

For more information, contact Cassandra Thompson at (918) 623-1189.

Free back-to-school vision screenings

Media Release
MCN Youth Council

OKMULGEE — Free vision screenings will be offered throughout the month of July for children ages three to 21. Trained optometry technicians will be on-site to perform exams for children with valid Creek citizenship cards and signed consent from parent or guardian for youth under the age of 18.

Screenings will include visual acuity, eye turning, color recognition and for those who need glasses, an appointment for a full eye exam with an optometrist in a Muscogee Creek Nation Health Clinic in August or early September.

The free vision screenings will also be held before the start of the academic year in community locations across Creek Nation boundaries.

SEE PAGE 2 for schedule

Muscogee Nation News
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Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
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Sports Writer - Jason Salsman
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Circulation - Wilma Murphy
Graphic Design - Carla Brown
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Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

District Court filings for February 2009

February 1, 2009 through February 28, 2009 filings are as follows:

MCN v. Commey Hill	Ct. 1: DUR
MCN v. Harvey Fourshey	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Jeffery Walker	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Dennis Hanson	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Robert Orrell	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning and Stopping without regard to Safety
MCN v. Brittany Herron	Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
MCN v. Bobby Broomhall	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Tiffany Back	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Thao Yang	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Brian Merriman	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Brian Merriman	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. James Littlejohn	Ct. 1: No Driver's License
MCN v. Charles Dilley	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Tracy Seals	Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
MCN v. Mark Maxson	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Eva Urrey	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Dewayne Bruner	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Frank Eubanks	Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
MCN v. Billy Flynn Jr.	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Larry Huitt	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Christopher Larson	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning and Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Tracy Bewley	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Eric Adcock	Ct. 1: Trespassing
MCN v. Steve Bales	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Gerald Griffin	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Gerald Griffin	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Gerald Griffin	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Cody Roberts	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Connie Rudd	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Bret Huskins	Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
MCN v. Betty Vanscoy	Ct. 1: DUR

District Court filings for March 2009

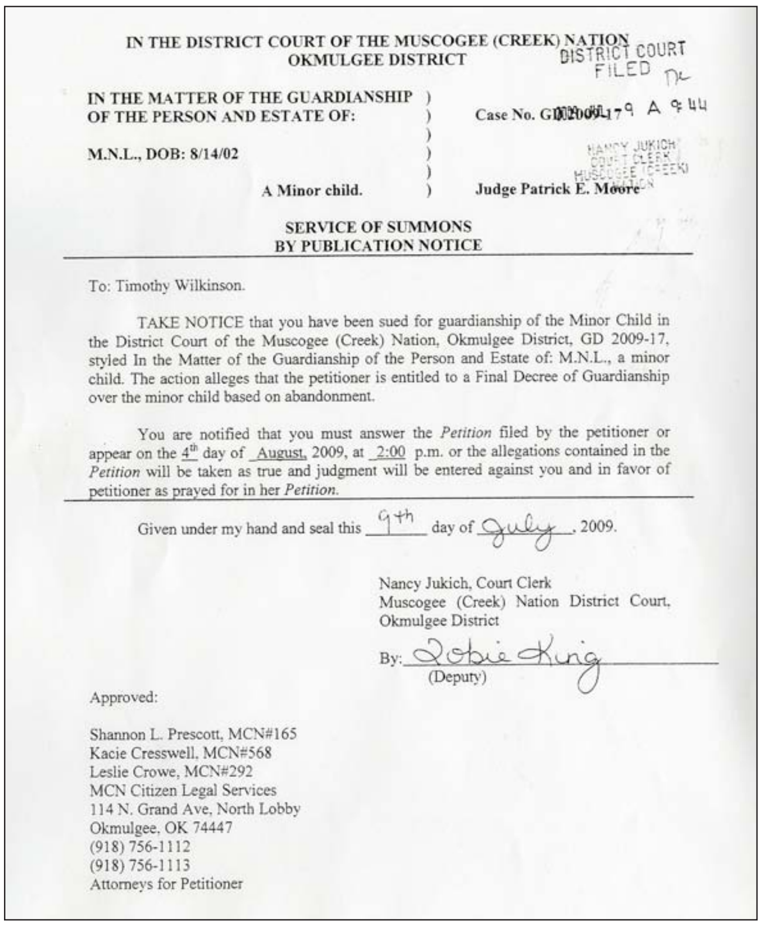
March 1, 2009 through March 31, 2009 filings are as follows:

Civil:

The Muscogee (Creek) National Council v. A.D. Ellis, in his official capacity as the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation	Petition
Elite Discovery Services Inc., v. Ricky Thompson	Foreign Judgment
Cash Security of Sapulpa v. Deborah Vanorsdol	Foreign Judgment
Sparks Regional Medical Center v. Nancy Boydston	Foreign Judgment
America's Car Mart v. Rosanne Factor	Small Claims
MCN Consumer Loans v. Shawn Tyndall	Small Claims
Saber Acceptance v. Sarah Morgan	Petition
Approved Cash Advance v. Sandra Roberts	Foreign Judgment
In the Matter of: Jordan Kelly	Name Change
Sun Loan v. Amanda Reid	Small Claims
Banner Finance v. Jessina McBee	Small Claims
Saber Acceptance v. Alexis Crosley	Foreign Judgment
Sidney Pilley v. Regina Mealer	Petition
Angelique Redeau v. Darrell French	Petition
MCN v. Four Thousand Dollars and no/100 ($4,000.00) Jackpot and Four Hundred Twelve and no/100 machine ticket	Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture

Divorce:

Bronson Harjo v. Cassie Penderson	Divorce
Michelle Kalinich v. Thomas Kalinich	Divorce
Rebecca Morgan v. Elmo Morgan Jr.	Divorce



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP)
OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE OF:)
)
M.N.L., DOB: 8/14/02)
)
A Minor child.)

Case No. GD2009-17

9 A 9:44

NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

Judge Patrick E. Moore

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Timothy Wilkinson.

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship of the Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD 2009-17, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of: M.N.L., a minor child. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a Final Decree of Guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear on the 4th day of August, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 9th day of July, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By: Robie King
(Deputy)

Approved:

Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kacie Cresswell, MCN#568
Leslie Crowe, MCN#292
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113
Attorneys for Petitioner

Continued from Page 1

This event is cosponsored by the Chief's Council on Youth, the MCN Division of Health Eye Care, tribally supplemented health funds and the POPPS program. For more information, please contact the Community Center in your area or the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Services Office at (918) 732-7968.

Location	Dates	Time
Coweta Community Center	July 30	8:30 AM - 11:30 PM
Muscogee Community Center	July 30	1:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Wetumka (Old Hospital)	July 31	8:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Okemah Community Center	July 31	1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Eufaula, Skating Rink at the "Youth Health Fair"	July 31	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Okmulgee, Omniplex, at the "Back to School Splash"	August 6	9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Sapulpa Community Center	July 31	8:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Bristow Community Center	July 31	1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
OmniPlex in Festival Bldg. (during the youth Back to School Splash!)	Aug. 6	10:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Contact Josh Slane by phone at (918) 732 - 7638 or by e-mail at JSlane@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Welcome from Miss Muscogee 2009

• Rochelle Werito thanks Creek employees, volunteers and soldiers

by Rochelle Werito
Miss Muscogee Nation 2009-2010

OKMULGEE — Hensci to the people of the beautiful Muscogee Nation. My name is Rochelle Werito. I would like to start by saying I am extremely honored and blessed to be chosen as your 2009-2010 Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

I am from Oklahoma City, but currently live in Stillwater to attend Oklahoma State University. I will enter my senior year this fall majoring in Leisure Studies and minoring in Child Development for Therapeutic Recreation/Child Life Specialist. I am active in the Native American Student Association, Multicultural Greek Council, and the Gamma Chapter of Alpha Pi Omega Sorority, Inc., which is the first Native American sorority in the nation.

I would like to take the time to say *mvto* to: the Lord, our God for this life altering experience by being crowned Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation, our Principal Chief A.D. Ellis for his support of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Royalty, the National Council for sponsoring the scholarship pageant, the wonderful pageant committee and volunteers for their hard work with the pageant and our festival events; to those who made the Muscogee Seal buttons we passed out during Creek Nation Festival, Mr. Brandon for his work on the royalty float, our chaperones during the festival activities: Marcus Proctor, Billy Proctor, Miss Jeri Brandon and Lewis Hicks, the festival committee and volunteers for the successful weekend and to the citizens of the Muscogee Nation for supporting the youth through all we do.

During our 35th annual Creek Nation Festival, the 2009 royalty were invited to different events throughout the weekend. Some events that we attended were the Stomp Dance, the Junior Olympics, being in the parade, visiting our elders, hymn and gospel singing, the Living Legends, volleyball and horseshoe tournaments, and riding along side our Principal Chief and Second Chief in the rodeo grand entry.

The event that touched my heart the most was being able to honor our veterans and the families of the fallen soldiers; Lori Piestewa and Hatak Yearby. This ceremony was incredibly beautiful because of the songs and gratitude each color guard and individual brought. I was consumed with emotions that mere words can not express. The ceremony gave me the chance to thank those who have fought for our country in order for us to live in freedom that many of us take for granted. I will never forget the feeling I had to be able to stand with those whom have sacrificed more than I for the betterment of our people. I want to challenge the Nation as well as myself to never forget the sacrifices of our soldiers and their families.

Through these events at the Creek Nation Festival, my fellow royalty and I had the chance to connect and bond. This connection is something that will bind us together because of the opportunities we have been given as the royalty of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. As the youngest of three, I have not known what it is like to have younger sisters. Now, I am blessed to have four young ladies that have become my family and they will share this amazing experience with me. Also, I am very lucky to have my Senior Miss to learn from and look up to for the rest of my life. Over the course of the year, as well as beyond, I hope to inspire other young women and girls by being a positive role model and a person they can look up to. I am grateful to be given this experience of a lifetime and I can not wait to see what the future holds. I look forward to meeting many new people and learning as much as I can. *Mvto.*

Letters to the Editor

Citizen thanks Festival staff

To Editor of the MNN:

During the Festival we had a very trying time trying to get electric to our R.V. In the process of the agonizing heat, Cherokee Hicks did everything possible to accommodate my family. She checked on us repeatedly, returned when she said she would, and was sincere in taking care of the problem.

Her staff member Mike Sands went the extra mile helping us everyday even on Sunday. Cherokee Hicks Thank you so much for being stretched so thin.

Mr. Claude Sumner Thank you for sending Brad Fox to fix our problem and to get us home safely. Brad Fox Thank you for everything, even the little things you did meant a lot to us . And Stan, Brad's staff member Thank you for listening to our problem and Brian On-The-Hill, a special Thanks to you. Cherokee Hicks I sure MVTO YOU !

Cecelia Wittman

Mekko thanks Festival staff

To Editor of the MNN:

On behalf of the members of the Tallahassee (Wvkokaye) Ceremonial Ground, I would like to express our appreciation and gratitude to the Festival Committee for allowing our ground to be the host ground for the Festival Stompdance for the fifth year. This year's event had the largest turn-out ever.

We would also like to say Mvto to all of our friends from the different ceremonial grounds and all of our visitors who came and made this event a success. A lot of you came a long way to be a part of this event, which not only opens the Creek Festival each year but also honors the Ceremonial People of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Thank you to all the leaders, shellshakers, singers, dancers and friends. Mvto to Chief Ellis and Mrs. Ellis for your continued support and involvement with the ceremonial grounds. We would also like to thank the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Royalty for joining us during this event.

We would like to send a special thank-you to J.D. TeeHee and the members of the Red Bird Ceremonial Ground for the evening meal they prepared. A special thanks to Lilly Tyner for the frybread. This year's meal was shared with over 500 people.

I would also like to thank my family, my wife, Joyce, the ground members and the many volunteers for all your help with the dance. You did an excellent job as usual. Without your help, this event would not have been as successful as it was. MVTO.

Mekko David J. Proctor
Tallahassee (Wvkokaye)
Ceremonial Ground

MOVIE NIGHT!

ATTN: UNITED STATES COAST GUARD VETERANS

In Honor of Muscogee Veterans
the VASO will be hosting
"MOVIE NIGHT"
Tuesday 4 August 2009

To Celebrate The Birth Month Of The United States Coast Guard (4 August 1790)

• Showtime - 1900 Hrs. - 4 August 2009
• Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
• Movie - **The Guardian**
• Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
• Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
• Smoking Lamp is Lit
• Price of Admission - Coast Guard Veterans must wear their MCN Veterans Vest (If you do not have a vest bring in your DD-214 to be measured for a MCN Veterans vest).
• Muscogee Coast Guard Veterans are now allowed to bring one guest (Please limit to only one guest)
• **"Movie Night"** is for Muscogee Veterans only (Plus one guest)
• Any questions call Shawn Taryole at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7745

Ferrellgas
Blue Rhino

Special offer for Creek Nation Tribal Members

Discounted Price on Propane •
FREE Tank Switch Out •
FREE System Safety Check •
Used 500 gallon tank for $450 •
Discounted Lease on Tanks •
Normal tank lease charge is $80 per year on a 500 gallon tank
Tribal members will be offered a lease fee of $50 per year

Am I eligible for this program?

The tribal member must live in our service area •
Make sure to inform the Customer Service Specialist that you are a Creek Nation tribal member •

James Parker - Account Manager
Cell Phone: 918-277-2470

Community Calendar

• Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health is excited to announce a new improvement to the facilities. Beginning June 29, all MCN Health Facilities began using a new patient information computer system.

This system will allow all health facilities to store confidential health information in a computerized database. Patients must arrive 20 to 30 minutes early to obtain the following: Social Security card, CDIB and/or Tribal enrollment card, photo identification, any health insurance cards and anyone under the age of 18 is required to present a birth certificate.

For questions or concerns regarding this transition contact Anne Edwards, Patient Advocacy Coordinator at (918) 756-3334 ext. 287.

• Family of (Creek) soldiers killed in action

OKMULGEE—It is requested that family members of Muscogee (Creek) soldiers Killed In Action during World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam kindly contact the Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO) to provide the following: name of the Muscogee (Creek) soldier, verification of citizen, killed in action verification, birth date, service branch and killed in action date .

The requested purpose of this information is to publicly honor and recognize our tribal soldiers in the Veterans affairs Services Office (VASO) Memorial Courtyard.

For further information or assistance please contact Ken Davis, Manager at (918) 732-7739 or by e-mail at kdavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov or contact Shawn Taryole, Assistant at (918) 732-7745 or by e-mail at staryole @ muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Final results for 2009 Creek Festival

Hoop Shoot

Boys 9-10: 1st Christian Rangel, 2nd Kyle Sine and 3rd Marvin Croudeau. Girls 9-10: 1st Tyra Cooper, 2nd Michelle Yahola and 3rd Kiara Johnson.

Boys 11-12: 1st Dakotah Proctor, 2nd Stephen Armour and 3rd Lesley Proctor. Girls 11-12: 1st Jamie Ramos, 2nd Rhanda Sherrell and 3rd Rosie Martinez.

Boys 13-15: 1st Jesse Bear, 2nd Jon Berryhill and 3rd Salvador Brown. Girls 13-15: 1st Felicia Harjo, 2nd Mary Tiger and 3rd Summer Butler.

Jump Rope

Boys 5-6: 1st Mason Pollard. Girls 5-6: 1st Madison Proctor, 2nd Kailey Littlehead and 3rd Nora Biggoose.

Boys 7-8: 1st Garret Underwood, 2nd Grant Williams and 3rd Jordan Proctor. Girls 7-8: 1st Meske Bowers, 2nd Dayne Harjochee and 3rd McKenna Smith.

Boys 9-10: 1st Kane Sanchez, 2nd Jesse Barnett and 3rd Christian Rangel. Girls 9-10: 1st Taylor Lee, 2nd Joslin Tristen and 3rd Jessica Frazier.

Long Jump

Boys 9-10: 1st Ohiya Billiot, 2nd Caleb Bigpond and 3rd Addisyn Lena. Girls 9-10: 1st Christian Wind, 2nd Raven Blackbear.

Boys 11-12: 1st Tayler Foster, 2nd Marley Lower and 3rd Oscar Rose. Girls 11-12: 1st Kenzie Bean, 2nd Aurdrea Hamric and 3rd Amy Kitchen.

Boys 13-15: 1st Eli Pigg, 2nd Joshua Graham and3rd Alex Hicks.

Girls 13-15: 1st Dinyelle Dean, 2nd Raquel Grant and 3rd Tunnissah Lindsey.

Standing Long Jump

Boys 5-6: 1st Steve Shell, 2nd Richard and 3rd Dentrell Davis. Girls 5-6: 1st Avery Deerinwater, 2nd Dessie Sack and 3rd Kiona Reich.

Boys 7-8: 1st Garrett Williams, 2nd Devin Davis and 3rd Seth Sands. Girls 7-8: 1st Mattie Blackbear, 2nd Uriah McPerryman and 3rd McKenna Smith.

Tug of War

Boys 5-6: 1st Alabama, 2nd Okmulgee. Girls 5-6: 1st OKF, 2nd Glenpool and 3rd Morris.

Boys 7-8: Alabama, Girls 7-8: Alabama.

Boys 9-10: 1st Lil Choctaws, 2nd Glenpool and 3rd Morris. Girls 9-10: 1st Okfuskee, 2nd Glenpool and 3rd Okmulgee.

Boys 11-12: 1st Glenpool, 2nd Okfuskee and 3rd Alabama. Girls 1-12: Okfuskee.

Boys 13-15: 1st Okfuskee, 2nd Glenpool. Girls 13-15: 1st Alabama, 2nd Okfuskee.

Softball Throw

Boys 5-6: 1st Domique Landers, 2nd Charley Mason and3rd Ethan Sands. Girls 5-6: 1st Genesis Talamasey, 2nd Tamra Soap and 3rd Kylie Hill.

Boys 7-8: 1st Brayden Lee, 2nd Brock Hick and 3rd Daniel Sack. Girl 7-8: 1st Madison Factor, 2nd Kitana Foreman and3rd Deziree Roberts.

30 Meter

Boys 5-6: 1st Dentrell Davis, 2nd Bradley Lambert and 3rd Korey West. Girls 5-6: 1st Okfuskee, 2nd Morris and 3rd Glenpool.

Boys 7-8: 1st Russell Quiett, 2nd Perry Bartels and 3rd Samuel Quinn. Girls 7-8: 1st Tafv Harjo, 2nd Alexis Snodgrass and 3rd Kitana Foreman.

50 Meter

Boys 5-6: 1st Justin James, 2nd Payton Williams and 3rd Josiah Augelar. Girls 5-6: 1st Mercedes Dunn, 2nd Audrey Roberts and 3rd Kailey Littlehead.

Boys 7-8: 1st Diego Jones, 2nd Russell Quiett and 3rd Jocenda Butler. Girls 7-8: 1st Kendra Harjo, 2nd Kristian Cloud and 3rd Atoniah Tiger.

Boys 9-10: 1st Matthew Osceola, 2nd Derek Hill and 3rd Stephan Hall. Girls 9-10: 1st Cheyanne Sanders, 2nd Stormy Johnson and 3rd Kira Johnson.

Boys 11-12: 1st Jacob Burgess, 2nd Shade Frankin and 3rd Lance White. Girls 11-12:1st Kenzie Bean, 2nd Kenna Lower.

Boys 13-15: 1st Shawn Benocoma, 2nd Jeremiah Winney and3rd Isaiah Jimboy. Girls 13-15: 1st Kirsten Hill and 2nd Kiara Bradford.

100 Meters

Boys 9-10: 1st Kotcha Moppin, 2nd Darrell Jones and3rd Ira Blackbear. Girls 9-10: 1st Cheyanne Sanders, 2nd Stormy Johnson and 3rd Kira Johnson.

Boys 11-12: 1st Christopher Cohen, 2nd Nickolas Coody and3rd Lance White. Girls 11-12: 1st Marissa Proctor, 2nd Lowe and 3rd Rosie Martinez.

Boys 13-15: 1st Zac Pickering, 2nd Eli Pigg and3rd Alex Hicks. Girls 13-15: 1st Dinyelle Dean, 2nd Cierra Yohola and 3rd Kristin Towie.

200 Meter

Boys 11-12: 1st Shane Franklin, 2nd Taylor Foster and3rd Christopher Cohem. Girls 11-12: 1st Andrea Hamric, 2nd Jami Ramos and 3rd Justice Talamasey.

Boys 12-15: 1st Zac Pickering, 2nd Guthry Dean and3rd Eli Pigg. Girls 13-15: 1st Dinyelle Dean, 2nd Cierra Yahola and 3rd Cheyenn Armour.

400 Meter

Boys 11-12: 1st Taylor Foster, 2nd Seth Littlehead, and 3rd Devin Deerinwater. Girls 11-12: 1st Jessica Wright, 2nd Deborah Cloud and 3rd Bandy Pickering.

Boy 9-10: 1st Caleb Bigpond, 2nd Ohiya Billiot and 3rd Bryan Francis.

Relay

Boys 5-6: 1st Okfuskee, 2nd Alabama and 3rd Okmulgee. Boys 7-8: 1st Sapulpa, 2nd Okfuskee and 3rd Okfuskee 2. Boys 9-10: 1st Glenpool, 2nd Morris and 3rd Oklahoma City. Boys 11-12: 1st Morris, 2nd Glenpool and 3rd Okfuskee. Boys 13-15: 1st Glenpool, 2nd Sapulpa and 3rd Okfuskee.

Girls 5-6: 1st Okfuskee, 2nd Wetumka and 3rd Morris. Girls 7-8: 1st Okfuskee, 2nd Sapulpa and 3rd Okmulgee. Girls 9-10: 1st Okfuskee, 2nd Okmulgee and 3rd Alabama. Girls 11-12: 1st Okfuskee, 2nd Lil Choctaw and 3rd Morris. Girls 13-15: 1st Morris, 2nd Wetumka and 3rd Okfuskee.

Golf

Individual Flight A winners were Ben Coffee in 1st place, David Ballard 2nd place and 3rd place Randy Fixico. Flight B winners were: 1st place Brent McDade, Cletus Colbert in 2nd and Anthony Pritchett in 3rd place. The Flight C winners were Delbert Duck in 1st. Sean Newrider as 2nd and Eddie Colbert in 3rd. Flight D winners were Tom McCoy in 1st place, James Soap in 2nd and Gary Canard in 3rd place.

For the Golf Scramble the winners were: 1st place team-Ben Coffee, Mike Osborn and Ronnie Corn; 2nd place team-Charlie Watashe, Bill Dowdy, Cletus Cobert and Brent Cahwee; 3rd place team-Rita Anderson, Randy Fixico, Pete bete Beaver and Marty Proctor.

Senior Activities

Jacks: 1st Ivalene Tottress 2nd Rachel Husman 3rd Rachel Asbury

Horseshoes-Men: 1. John Scott/Kenneth Morgan 2.Sam Jones/ John D. Brown 3. Tom Tiger/ Johnie Hicks . Women: 1. Oleta Donathon/ Rachel Husman 2. Johnnie Marks/ Aggie Beaver 3. Matilda King/ Emma Lowe.

Basketball-1.Rachel Morgan 2. Rennie Tiger 3. Matilda King.

Sofke-1.Rachel Asbury 2. Pearl Thomas.

Quilting-Handstitched: 1. Bethel Culberson 2. Louise Burgess 3. Joann Powell. Machine stitched: 1. Maxine Adams 2. Gretchen Lindsey 3. Pearl Thomas.

Men's Softball

Fast Pitch: 1st Kansas Indians, 2nd Dazed & Confused and 3rd Dodge

Slow Pitch: 1st Team Waylon, 2nd Braves and 3rd By-Spec Warriors .

Nigel Hampton placed first in men's 5k. Kristi Perryman placed first in womens' 5k.

The Warriors placed first in the 16-18 division of the 3-on-3 tournament.

The Kansas Indians placed second in the 16-18 youth 3 on 3 tournament.

The Reds placed first in the youth 16-18 division of the 3-on-3 tournament.

Native Mix placed second in the youth 16-18 division 3-on-3 tournament.

Lady Warriors placed first in the youth 13-15 division 3-on-3 tournament.

The Red Chiefs placed first in the 13-15 youth division in the 3-on-3 tournament.

The Reds placed second in the youth 13-15 3-on-3 tournament.

Photos taken by MCN Communications Department

Community Calendar

• Eufaula Indian Community Children's Health Fair

EUFAULA — The Eufaula Indian Community Center, located at 800 Birkes Rd., is hosting a Children's Health Fair sponsored by Eufaula Indian Health Center July 31, 2009 from 10 a.m. - 1p.m.

The health fair is free and lunch will be provided as well as free T-shirts.

For more information contact Lynda McIntosh-Saltsman, PHN at (918) 689-2547.

• WIC program introduces new food package

OKMULGEE—The Muscogee (Creek) Nation WIC Program is pleased to announce the implementation of the New WIC Food Packages on August 3, 2009. The changes align the WIC food packages with the 2005 Dietary Guidelines for Americans and Infant Feeding Practice Guidelines of the American Academy of Pediatrics. They reflect recommendations made by the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies in its report, "WIC Food Packages: Time for a Change."

"These changes reflect what is best for the health of our WIC participants," said Muscogee (Creek) Nation WIC Director Leslie Luckett. "We all know that nutrition plays an important role in our health. This is one more way Public Health is working to ensure nutritious foods are a part of our everyday diets."

The WIC food packages provide supplemental foods designed to meet the special nutritional needs of income eligible pregnant, breastfeeding, non-breastfeeding postpartum women, infants and children up to five years of age who are at nutritional risk.

The revised food packages retain the same food categories previously allowed under WIC, but add new food categories and optional substitutions to better meet the needs of WIC's diverse population including:

- Cash Value Benefit for the purchase of fresh or frozen fruits and vegetables;
- Tofu and soy products;
- Whole grain products to include brown rice, bread, tortillas and bulgur wheat;
- Baby food that includes fruits and vegetables; and
- Baby meats for fully breastfed infants.

Please join us in our enthusiasm of this historic event. If you would like additional information please contact our office at (918) 758-2722 or 1-800-648-2302.

Community Calendar

• IRS Tax Workshop moved to July 28-29

OKMULGEE — The IRS Tax Workshop that was scheduled for July 23 and 24 has been postponed until July 28, from 8a.m. - 4p.m. ,and July 29, from 8a.m. - 2p.m.

The location has also changed to Tulsa Indian Community Center located at 8611 S. Union Ave in Tulsa.

Breakfast and lunch will be provided. You will still need to register with the IRS rep. Aletha Bolt or William Linke at (405) 297-4575 or (405) 297-4657.

If there are any questions please call Community Research and Development department (918) 732-7963.

All Smoke Shop managers are encouraged to attend .

• School Clothing Assistance Program

OKMULGEE — The School Clothing Assistance Program is now available from now until Oct. 2.

This program assists students who are enrolled as a Muscogee (Creek) Citizen. If approved, students may receive a grant of $200.00 to purchase clothing items and/or shoes.

Applications are available at the School Clothing Program office, MCN Indian Community Centers and the MCN Child Development Centers. Students must be three years old and enrolled in any head-start or private school or at least four years old and enrolled in a public or private school, no higher than the 12th grade. Home schooled children ages five to 18 are also eligible.

For further information, call (918) 756-2024 or 800-482-1979 to request an application be mailed or faxed.

• Diabetes Awareness Summitt

OKMULGEE — The Third Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Awareness Summit will be held on August 20 - 21.

This free event is a partnership of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Executive Branch, Women's Caucus of the National Council and the Health System's Diabetes Program. More information is to be announced.

The Bulldogs placed first in the 10-12 division 3 on 3 youth tournament.

The Wild Cats placed second in the 10-12 3 on 3 youth tournament.

The Tulsa Bulldawgs placed first in the 10-12 girls 3 on 3 tournament.

The dribblers placed second in the 10-12 girls 3 on 3 tournament.

Pete Van finished in first place in the bow shoot competition. Mike Cornelius (red shirt) followed in second place.

Jim Story rounded out the top three in third place for the bow shoot.

Muscogee Creek Nation Festival Rodeo Results

Bareback Riding
1st Cody 81, 2nd Justin Anderson 76 and 3rd Brandon Rudolf 73.

Saddle Riding:
1st Sean Prater 75, 2nd Stacey Belt 74, and 3rd Tyler West 73.

Bull Riding:
1st Josh Baker 86, 2nd TJ Cummings 82 and Tyler Eldridge 78.

Calf Roping:
1st Ken Bailey 8.3, 2nd Trent Creager 8.8 and 3rd Chip Porterfield 9.3.

Steer Wrestling:
1st Josh Anderson 3.4, 2nd Kurt Butler 4.6, 3rd Walt Sherry 4.9

Team Roping:
1st Joel Maker and Nicky Simmons 5.0, 2nd Justin Turner and Josh Canant 5.2, 3rd Dusty Morgan and Cody Johnson 5.3

Barrel Racing:
1st Kylie Bogart 16.302, 2nd Kelly Beeman 16.712, 3rd Kelsey Spurlock 16.722

Photos taken by MCN Communications Department

The Bomb squad won first place in the MCN Festival Volleyball tournament.

N-2 Win dug in at the MCN Festival Volleyball tournament and came in second.

The Wolf Pack stalked down the competition and placed third in the volleyball tournament.

Bunky Impson Placed First in the men's singles horseshoe.

Bobby Harjo Placed second in the men's singles horseshoe.

First place winners for Men's Double Horseshoe's were Bobby Harjo and Sam Beaver.

Second Place in Men's Double Horseshoe's was Mike Deer and Glen Isham.

Ladie's first place horseshoe winner was Sarah Morgan.

Meannda Davis placed second in the Ladies Singles Horseshoe Competition.

Photos taken by MCN Communications Department

Community Calendar

• Lee - Doyle 50th Annual Reunion

PADEN — The Lee Doyle 50th Annual family reunion will be held August 8, 2009 at Paden Park at 12 noon. Coordinators ask that everyone who attends to please bring a covered dish.

For more information contact Henry Cooper at (405) 932-5216.

• National Council 2009 elections

OKMULGEE — The National Council primary election will be held on Sept. 19 and the general election on Nov. 7.

Filing dates for National Council seats B, D and F will be July 20, 21 and 22 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

For more information contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board at 918-732-7684, 7685 or 7631.

• 22nd Annual Francis Family Reunion

The Francis Family is planning their 22nd Annual Family Reunion. The reunion will be held at the Artussee Indian Baptist Church on Sept. 9, 2009. Everyone is welcome to the reunion and is asked to bring a pot luck dish. Members are planning on gathering for the reunion at approximately noon. Anyone who has more questions about the event should contact Anna King at 918-437-5953.

• Challenge Bowl 2010

OKMULGEE — Preparations are underway for the 2010 Challenge Bowl. Those seeking information for the event can look on the Muscogee Creek Nation's Web site for a downloadable copy of guidelines and registration information. For more information contact the JOM office at (918) 732-7844 or visit www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

• Twin Hills Indian Community food sale

TWIN HILLS—The Twin Hills Indian Community Center, located at 8110 N. Hwy 52, is hosting a food sale and flea market on August 1.

The flea market will be from 8a.m. - 2p.m., and the food sale will be held from 11a.m. - 2p.m.

For more information contact (918) 733-9117.

Contact Angel Ellis by phone at (918) 732 - 7697 or by E-mail at AEllis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Save the Date!

BACK TO SCHOOL

Splash

Thursday, August 6th, 10 am - 1 pm

Water Slides	*Games*	*Dunk Tank*
Hair Cuts	*Door Prizes*	*Health Fair*
School supply giveaways	*Concession &*	*More....*

**must have citizenship card, name & phone number for eye screens*
& CDIB / citizenship card for backpacks
1st come, 1st serve

Eye Screens*
9am- 1pm

Backpacks*

Claude Cox Omniplex

West of intersection on Highway 75 & Loop 56, Okmulgee, Ok

Tobacco- Free Event

For More Information or to set up a booth contact:
Cassandra Thompson 918-623-1189

SWAT
www.okswat.com

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

Native Business Spotlight: Thompson Pump BUSINESS AND GAMING - A5

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Building the Muscogee Nation PROGRAMS/ NOTICES - A7

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

AUGUST 2009
Volume 39, Issue 8
SEMI-MONTHLY

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

Berryhill celebrates 109 years

• Nation honors last original Muscogee allottee

MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Pictured above are children from the local Muscogee (Creek) Nation Child Care centers who attended Martha Berryhill's 109th birthday celebration and sang "Happy Birthday" in the Mvskoke language.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARTHA

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation original allottee Martha Berryhill celebrated her 109th birthday at the local elderly nutrition center in Okmulgee, Okla., amongst family, friends and media Tuesday, July 14, 2009.

Singers from Concharty United Methodist Church led by Newman Frank sang a few of Berryhill's favorite Creek hymns after Martha and company enjoyed her favorite lunch of fried chicken. A number youth from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Child Care Centers also attended the event and showered the "jewel of the tribe" with hand-made cards and gifts after a performance of "Happy Birthday" in the Mvskoke language.

Tribal officials, family and friends gathered to wish Mrs. Berryhill well and honor her as not only the oldest living Creek citizen, but also as one of the oldest Oklahomans in the state. Cohorolopat afvcketv nettv, Martha!

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Health Division adds scanners

• Clinics improve care with addition of new equipment

by Sandra Turner Peters
Communications Coordinator
MCN Division of Health

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Health Division has been building up its newest line of medical imaging systems that will give MCN physicians a noninvasive view of the heart and blood vessels.

The GE Lightspeed VCT is a volume computed tomography scanner, which creates a 3-D picture of the inside of a patient's body. This medical equipment is used for capturing images of small vessels and the heart while surgeons place devices such as stints, in patients.

Doctors may send patients with any sort of vascular CT scan need, from those who suffer from chest pain to those who have symptoms but have risk factors for heart disease to either location.

Myra Gregory, CT Tech at Okemah Health System, works with the new scanner daily and states, "This scanner has definitely been an asset to our facility."

The GE Lightspeed VCT is a 64 slice scanner. The scanner gives a comprehensive view of the heart and coronary arteries with sub-millimeter resolution in five seconds, called the 5-Beat Cardiac. The coverage possibly helps reduce beat-to-beat variability resulting in more robust, repeatable procedures, greater vessel visualization and shorter breath hold of sick patients. This means clinicians can rule out the three most life-threatening critical conditions in chest pain, aortic dissection, pulmonary embolism and coronary artery disease, in a single scan process called the 'Triple RuleOut.'

Photo by Sandra Peters

Pictured above are the ladies of the Okemah Clinic reading a CT scan from the new technology.

Another great feature of this scanner is that within the Stroke WorkUp it has the ability to dynamically acquire both anatomy and perfusion/blood flow to the brain in a cine scan. Gregory commented that the scanner covers about 4cm of a patient's anatomy per rotation, gathering 64 slices a 0.625mm (about the thickness of a credit card). A rotation takes about 2.5 to three rotations per second.

What this means for patients at the Okemah Health System is that it allows for quick scanning of patients. Patients may be scanned in as little as 30 seconds, depending on the type of study. This scanner has the capability of not only performing general CT scans, but also specialty studies. Those specialty studies are cardiac CT, cardiac scoring CT, CT run-off (for lower extremities), CT angiography of neck and aorta, etc. With this type of medical equipment, the MCN Division of Health may now offer a more concise prognosis on to patients and bring more efficient health care to citizens.

SEE SCANNERS - A6

Primary election set for Sept. 19

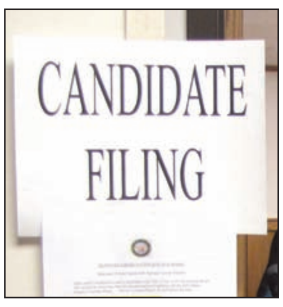
by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — July 20-22, 2009, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board held the 2009 National Council Candidate filing period for seats open for re-election.

Seats B, D and F are the open two-year seats for the eight districts within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The Wagoner District is one of the eight districts that have one seat with a four-year term.

Official Candidate Filing results are posted on A2 and the August Extra Edition will also include short biographies for each.

SEE CANDIDATES - A2



Primary elections are set for Sept. 19 with the general election following on Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009.

Third annual Diabetes Awareness Summit set for August 20-21

by Sherry O'Mara
Diabetes Program Coordinator, OIHC

OKMULGEE — Dedicated to passing on the knowledge to ensure a healthy future, MCN National Council Women's Caucus and the Division of Health Diabetes Program will host the third annual Diabetes Awareness Summit Aug. 20-21, 2009. This exciting two-day conference in Okmulgee will focus on finding ways to stop the rapid spread of one of the world's most damaging, costly and preventable diseases. The annual community event will be held at the First Baptist Church in Okmulgee.

Several well known diabetes experts from around the country have been invited to share their knowledge and latest discoveries. The event will include health exhibitors complete with health screening for people to identify risk for diabetes.

SEE DIABETES - A6

EXECUTIVE A2
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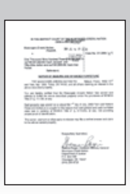
CV 2009 - 109



LEGISLATIVE A3
National Council minutes

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION NATIONAL COUNCIL

ADVERTISEMENT A4
Don Carlton Honda

BUSINESS/GAMING A5
Eufaula Community expands

HEALTH A6
Christine Wind, veteran CHR, takes her leave from Muscogee Division of Health

EDUCATION A8
JOM Program congratulates Pigeon as first OHS summer school grad

Communications Department - P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447

EXECUTIVE

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The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News*** unless other copyrights are shown.

Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Candidates

Continued from A1

Creek District – Seat B
George Tiger
Larry Joe Cahwee (I)
Monty L. Bunny
McIntosh District – Seat B
Anthony Notaro
Adam Jones III (I)
Bobby Sullivan
Okfuskee District – Seat B
Lena Wind (I)
Mary (Severs) Lee
Nancy West Watson
Tukvpvtce District – Seat B
Thomas Yahola (I)
Okmulgee District – Seat B
Jeff Fife
Keeper Johnson (I)
Okmulgee District – Seat D
Carmen Tecumseh-Williams (I)
David B. Lewis Jr.
Pearl M. Thomas
Rebecca June Torres
Tulsa District – Seat B
Cherrah Quiett (I)
Carolyn Burgess Billy
Tulsa District – Seat D
Sam Alexander (I)
Tulsa District – Seat F
Carol McHenry-Williams
Kara Medina (I)
Richard E "Rick" Wilde
Muskogee District -- Seat B
Eddie LaGrone (I)

(I)=Incumbent.

The primary election will be held Saturday, Sept. 19 followed by a general election to be held on Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009 at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

For more information, please contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board at (918) 732-7684.

District Court filings for Feb. 2009

The District Court filings from February 1, 2009 thru February 28, 2009 are as follows:

MCN v. Commey Hill	Ct. 1: DUR
MCN v. Harvey Fourshey	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Jeffery Walker	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Dennis Hanson	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Robert Orrell	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning and Stopping without regard to Safety
MCN v. Brittany Herron	Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
MCN v. Bobby Broomhall	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Tiffany Back	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Thao Yang	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Brian Merriman	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Brian Merriman	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. James Littlejohn	Ct. 1: No Driver's License
MCN v. Charles Dilley	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Tracy Seals	Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
MCN v. Mark Maxson	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Eva Urrey	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Dewayne Bruner	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Frank Eubanks	Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
MCN v. Billy Flynn Jr.	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Larry Huitt	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Christopher Larson	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning and Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Tracy Bewley	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Eric Adcock	Ct. 1: Trespassing
MCN v. Steve Bales	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Gerald Griffin	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Gerald Griffin	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Gerald Griffin	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Cody Roberts	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Connie Rudd	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Bret Huskins	Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
MCN v. Betty Vanscoy	Ct. 1: DUR

District Court filings for March 2009

The District Court filings from March 1, 2009 through March 31, 2009 are as follows:

Civil:

The Muscogee (Creek) National Council v. A.D. Ellis, in his official capacity as the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation	Petition
Elite Discovery Services Inc., v. Ricky Thompson	Foreign Judgment
Cash Security of Sapulpa v. Deborah Vanorsdol	Foreign Judgment
Sparks Regional Medical Center v. Nancy Boydston	Foreign Judgment
America's Car Mart v. Rosanne Factor	Small Claims
MCN Consumer Loans v. Shawn Tyndall	Small Claims
Saber Acceptance v. Sarah Morgan	Petition
Approved Cash Advance v. Sandra Roberts	Foreign Judgment
In the Matter of: Jordan Kelly	Name Change
Sun Loan v. Amanda Reid	Small Claims
Banner Finance v. Jessina McBee	Small Claims
Saber Acceptance v. Alexis Crosley	Foreign Judgment
Sidney Pilley v. Regina Mealer	Petition
Angelique Redeau v. Darrell French	Petition
MCN v. Four Thousand Dollars and no/100 ($4,000.00) Jackpot and Four Hundred Twelve and no/100 machine ticket	Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture

Divorce:

Bronson Harjo v. Cassie Penderson	Divorce
Michelle Kalinich v. Thomas Kalinich	Divorce
Rebecca Morgan v. Elmo Morgan Jr.	Divorce
Tricia Anderson v. Christopher Anderson	Divorce
Cynthia Ronczyk v. Francis Ronczyk	Divorce
Teresa Eckhart v. Cary Eckhart	Divorce
Rhonda Ransom v. Clarence Ransom	Divorce
Tiffinie Wood v. Nathan Wood	Divorce
Cassandra Macaruso v. Joseph Macaruso	Divorce
Charles Jones v. Ladonna Jones	Divorce
Stephanie Primeaux v. Robert Poorman	Divorce
William Melson v. Donna Kaler	Divorce
Laura Siegrist v. Jackie Siegrist Jr.	Divorce

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex rel., Melissa Hembree v. Patrick Williams	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Shannon Mitchell v. Dennis Mitchell	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Alexis Crosley v. Melissa Chuckluck	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Marva Proctor v. Derrick Holmes	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Alexis Crosley v. Alexander Alvarez	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Winey Beaver v. Lillian Beaver	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Winey Beaver v. Cheyenne Marks	Child Support

Ex-Parte:

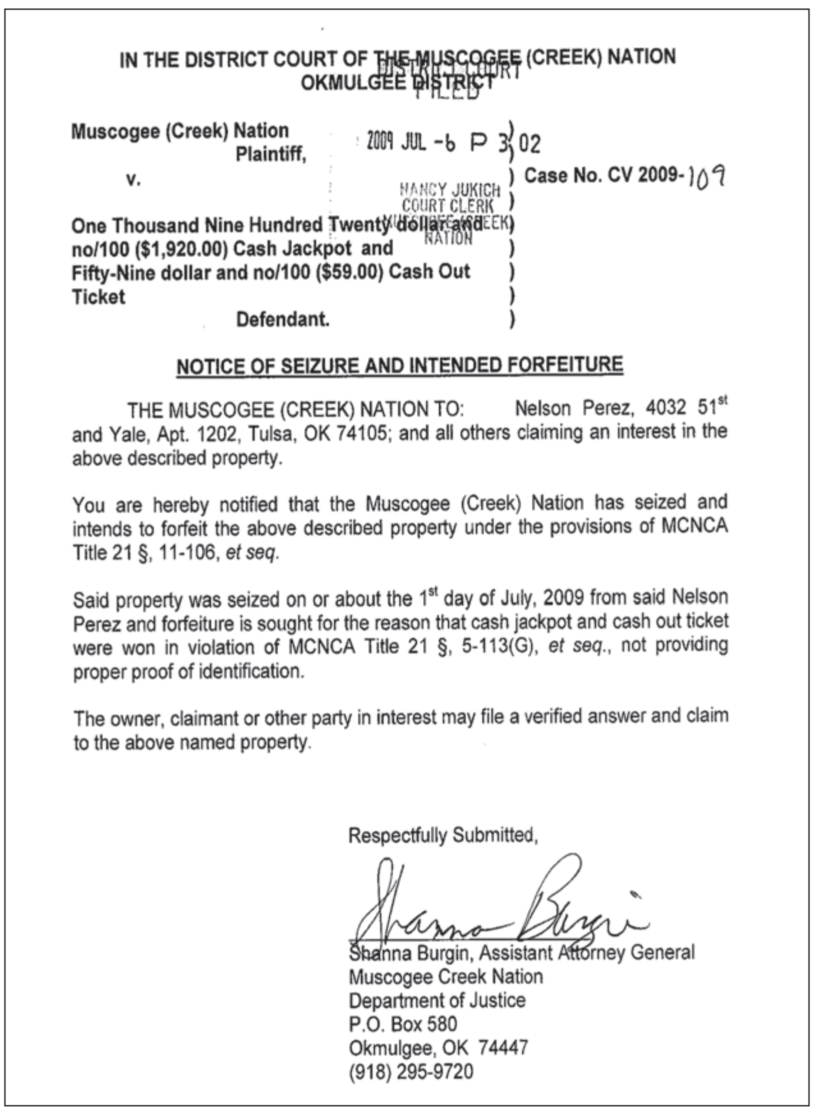
Rebecca Mitschelen v. Joshua Mitschelen	Ex-Parte

Criminal Misdemeanors:

MCN v. Mark Poole	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check
MCN v. Ashley Burks	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check

Criminal Felonies:

MCN v. Courtney Prease	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 JUL -6 P 3:02
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Plaintiff,
v.
One Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty dollar and no/100 ($1,920.00) Cash Jackpot and Fifty-Nine dollar and no/100 ($59.00) Cash Out Ticket
Defendant.

) Case No. CV 2009-109

NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND INTENDED FORFEITURE

THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Nelson Perez, 4032 51st and Yale, Apt. 1202, Tulsa, OK 74105; and all others claiming an interest in the above described property.

You are hereby notified that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has seized and intends to forfeit the above described property under the provisions of MCNCA Title 21 §, 11-106, *et seq*.

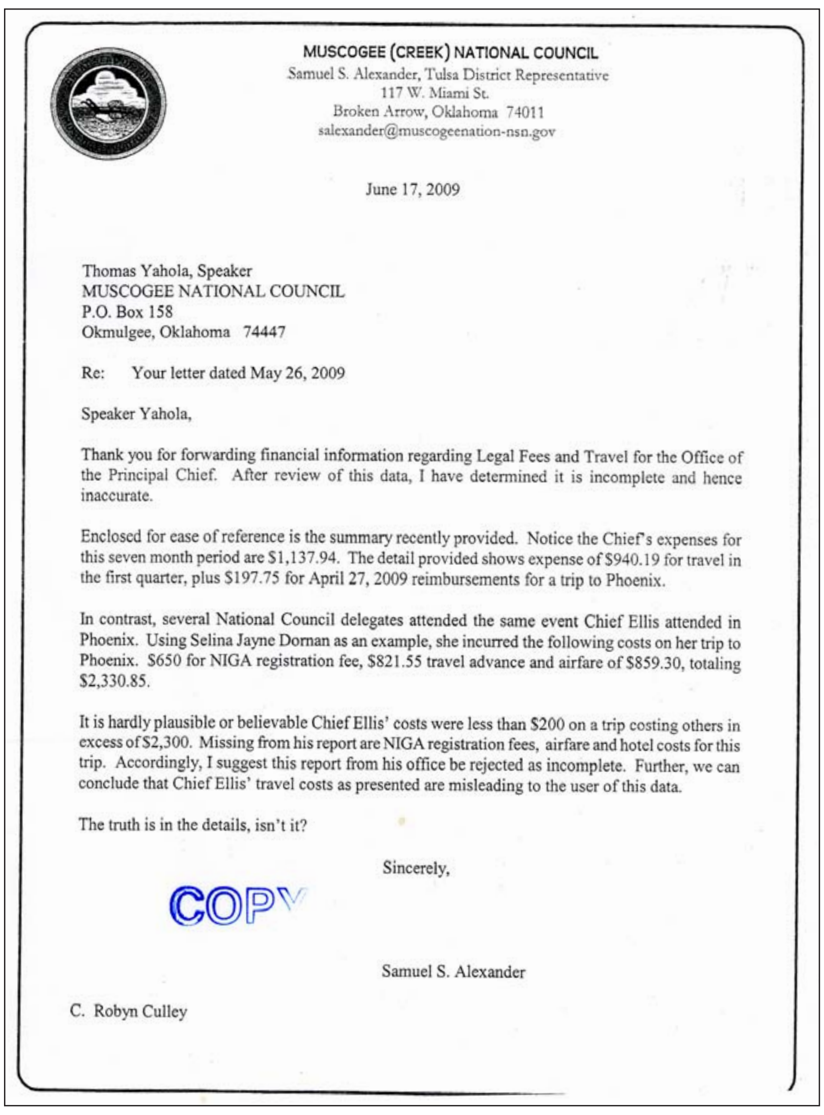
Said property was seized on or about the 1st day of July, 2009 from said Nelson Perez and forfeiture is sought for the reason that cash jackpot and cash out ticket were won in violation of MCNCA Title 21 §, 5-113(G), *et seq*., not providing proper proof of identification.

The owner, claimant or other party in interest may file a verified answer and claim to the above named property.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shanna Burgin

Shanna Burgin, Assistant Attorney General
Muscogee Creek Nation
Department of Justice
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 295-9720



MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL
Samuel S. Alexander, Tulsa District Representative
117 W. Miami St.
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma 74011
salexander@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

June 17, 2009

Thomas Yahola, Speaker
MUSCOGEE NATIONAL COUNCIL
P.O. Box 158
Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447

Re: Your letter dated May 26, 2009

Speaker Yahola,

Thank you for forwarding financial information regarding Legal Fees and Travel for the Office of the Principal Chief. After review of this data, I have determined it is incomplete and hence inaccurate.

Enclosed for ease of reference is the summary recently provided. Notice the Chief's expenses for this seven month period are $1,137.94. The detail provided shows expense of $940.19 for travel in the first quarter, plus $197.75 for April 27, 2009 reimbursements for a trip to Phoenix.

In contrast, several National Council delegates attended the same event Chief Ellis attended in Phoenix. Using Selina Jayne Dornan as an example, she incurred the following costs on her trip to Phoenix. $650 for NIGA registration fee, $821.55 travel advance and airfare of $859.30, totaling $2,330.85.

It is hardly plausible or believable Chief Ellis' costs were less than $200 on a trip costing others in excess of $2,300. Missing from his report are NIGA registration fees, airfare and hotel costs for this trip. Accordingly, I suggest this report from his office be rejected as incomplete. Further, we can conclude that Chief Ellis' travel costs as presented are misleading to the user of this data.

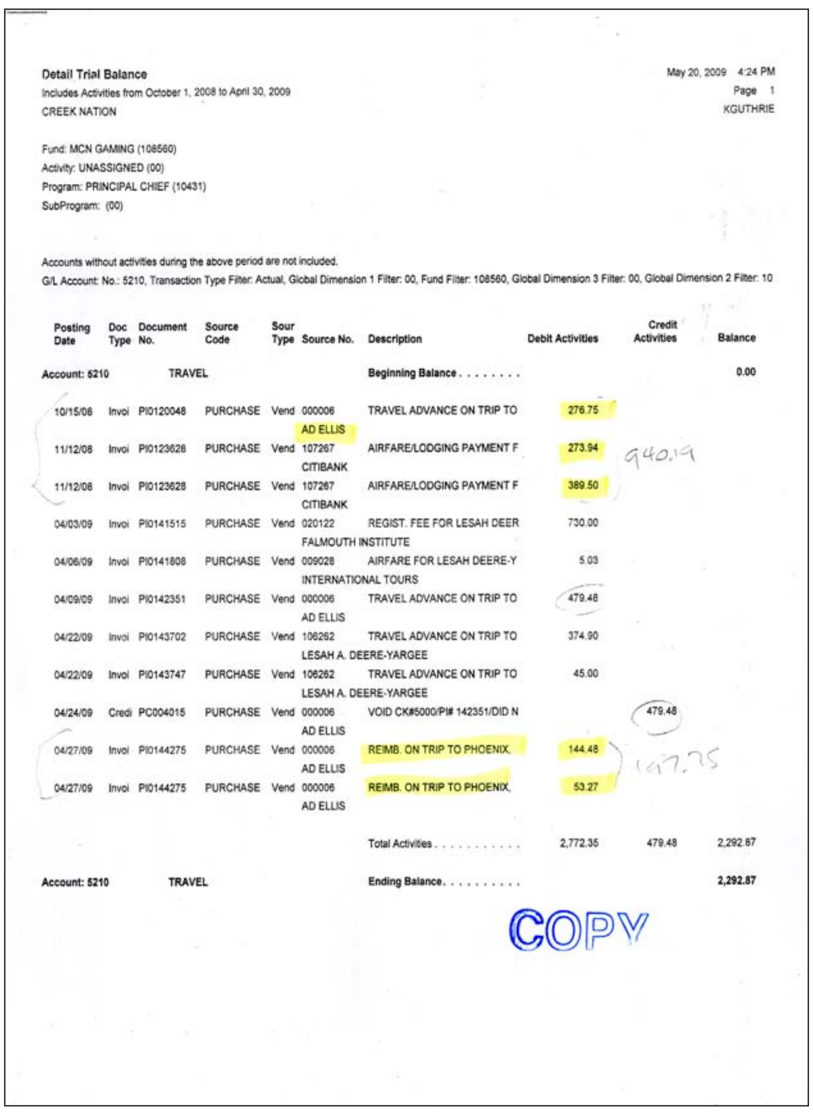
The truth is in the details, isn't it?

Sincerely,

COPY

Samuel S. Alexander

C. Robyn Culley



Detail Trial Balance
Includes Activities from October 1, 2008 to April 30, 2009
CREEK NATION

May 20, 2009 4:24 PM
Page 1
KGUTHRIE

Fund: MCN GAMING (108560)
Activity: UNASSIGNED (00)
Program: PRINCIPAL CHIEF (10431)
SubProgram: (00)

Accounts without activities during the above period are not included.
G/L Account: No.: 5210, Transaction Type Filter: Actual, Global Dimension 1 Filter: 00, Fund Filter: 108560, Global Dimension 3 Filter: 00, Global Dimension 2 Filter: 10

Posting Date	Doc Type	Document No.	Source Code	Sour Type	Source No.	Description	Debit Activities	Credit Activities	Balance
Account: 5210		TRAVEL				Beginning Balance			0.00
10/15/08	Invoi	PI0120048	PURCHASE	Vend	000006 AD ELLIS	TRAVEL ADVANCE ON TRIP TO	276.75		
11/12/08	Invoi	PI0123628	PURCHASE	Vend	107267 CITIBANK	AIRFARE/LODGING PAYMENT F	273.94		
11/12/08	Invoi	PI0123628	PURCHASE	Vend	107267 CITIBANK	AIRFARE/LODGING PAYMENT F	389.50		
04/03/09	Invoi	PI0141515	PURCHASE	Vend	020122 FALMOUTH INSTITUTE	REGIST. FEE FOR LESAH DEER	730.00		
04/06/09	Invoi	PI0141808	PURCHASE	Vend	009028 INTERNATIONAL TOURS	AIRFARE FOR LESAH DEERE-Y	5.03		
04/09/09	Invoi	PI0142351	PURCHASE	Vend	000006 AD ELLIS	TRAVEL ADVANCE ON TRIP TO	479.48		
04/22/09	Invoi	PI0143702	PURCHASE	Vend	106262 LESAH A. DEERE-YARGEE	TRAVEL ADVANCE ON TRIP TO	374.90		
04/22/09	Invoi	PI0143747	PURCHASE	Vend	106262 LESAH A. DEERE-YARGEE	TRAVEL ADVANCE ON TRIP TO	45.00		
04/24/09	Credi	PC004015	PURCHASE	Vend	000006 AD ELLIS	VOID CK#5000/PI# 142351/DID N		479.48	
04/27/09	Invoi	PI0144275	PURCHASE	Vend	000006 AD ELLIS	REIMB. ON TRIP TO PHOENIX.	144.48		
04/27/09	Invoi	PI0144275	PURCHASE	Vend	000006 AD ELLIS	REIMB. ON TRIP TO PHOENIX.	53.27		
						Total Activities	2,772.35	479.48	2,292.87
Account: 5210		TRAVEL				Ending Balance			2,292.87

940.19
197.75

COPY

Letter to the Editor

Citizen thanks tribal officials/ EPPCO for thier efforts

HECTORVILLE — Creek Nation recently built an alternative house for my son Gbon Choate from Hectorville.

Gbon who is 47 years old had a stroke in March of this year, which left him paralyzed on one side. I never dreamed all of this would manifest from something so tragic, but God always turns the bad around for the good of those who love Him.

I know Chief Ellis and Second Chief Berryhill have a big role in what is being done for our people but I want to give special thanks to the construction department, especially David Proctor, Inspector Tony Lowe and Ron/Bee Ann Epperson, who kept in touch with us during the construction.

We were kept informed of all that was taking place, phase by phase. They were here on the work site in 100 degree temperatures to oversee the work that was being done.

We appreciate all of EPPCO's builders, who did an excellent job working in the heat of some of the hottest days we've had all summer. We thank you and God Bless the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Respectfully,
Gloria Tulsa Ware on behalf of her son Gbon Choate

LEGISLATIVE

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE **JUNE 16, EMERGENCY SESSION**.

JUNE 16, EMERGENCY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVE **TERRIE ANDERSON** WAS ABSENT.

VETO MESSAGE:

• MOTION TO OVER-RIDE THE VETO CARRIED (20-4-0) TR 09-046, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION MANDATING THAT THE NATION TEMPORARILY CEASE DOING BUSINESS WITH EPPCO BUILDERS BY AWARDING THEM ANY NEW CONTRACTS UNTIL TRIBAL CITIZENS' CONCERNS ARE ADDRESSED AND ADEQUATELY RESOLVED RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **PETE BEAVER, DAVID NICHOLS, KEEPER JOHNSON** AND **JAMES JENNINGS**.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) TR 09-055, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A TEMPORARY OPERATING PERMIT WITH OKMULGEE COUNTY 4-H FOR THE OPERATION OF A TEMPORARY FIREWORKS SALES FACILITY ON TRIBAL TRUST LAND SPONSOR: **CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS**

• CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL TO ACCEPT SPEAKER YAHOLA'S VOTE TO OVER-RIDE VETO. THEREFORE, THE FOLLOWING RESULTS BEING RECORDED (21-4-0) TR 09-046 WILL BE RECORDED AS A VETO OVER-RIDE

JUNE 18, EMERGENCY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVE **KARA MEDINA** WAS EXCUSED.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• MOTION TO CONSOLIDATE NCR 09-005, NCR 09-006 AND NCR 09-007 TO ONE CARRIED (23-1-0)

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **BILL FIFE**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED) NCR 09-005, A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL APPROVING THE AGREEMENT FOR LEGAL SERVICES BETWEEN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL AND FREDERICKS PEEBLES & MORGAN, LLP SPONSOR: **STEVE BRUNER**; NCR 09-006, A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL APPROVING THE LEGAL SERVICES CONTRACT BETWEEN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL AND G. WILLIAM RICE, P.C. AND LEEDS LEGAL COUNSEL AND CONSULTING, PLLC. SPONSOR: **STEVE BRUNER** AND NCR 09-007, A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL APPROVING THE ATTORNEY SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL AND ROSETTE & ASSOCIATES, PC SPONSOR: **STEVE BRUNER**

JUNE 27, REGULAR SESSION

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT HUFFT, CHERRAH QUIETT** AND **PAULA WILLITS** WERE EXCUSED AT THEIR DISCRETION. REPRESENTATIVE **STEVE BRUNER** WAS ABSENT.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) TR 09-039, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY LOCATED IN OKMULGEE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON**; CO-SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) TR 09-043, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A GRANT OF EASEMENT FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY BETWEEN THE NATION AND THE CITY OF OKMULGEE SPONSOR: **CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) TR 09-044, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN OIL AND GAS MINING LEASE - TRIBAL INDIAN LANDS ON 131.14 ACRES OF TRIBAL TRUST PROPERTY LOCATED IN MCINTOSH COUNTY SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) TR 09-047, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REVISING THE ALTERNATIVE HOUSING PROGRAM POLICY SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) TR 09-049, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ESTABLISHING COMMUNICATION AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FINANCE OFFICER AND THE CONTROLLER'S OFFICE SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) TR 09-050, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO CONVEY AN EASEMENT TO PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF OKLAHOMA FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING ELECTRICITY TO THE RIVER SPIRIT CASINO PARKING GARAGE AND MARQUEE SIGN SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) TR 09-052, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY LOCATED IN OKMULGEE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **DAVID NICHOLS**

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) TR 09-053, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO APPLY FOR FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AND PRIVATE FOUNDATION GRANT OPPORTUNITIES AND AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY GRANT DOCUMENTS SPONSOR: **DAVID NICHOLS**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) TR 09-054, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ADVOCATING UNITED STATES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE INCORPORATION OF A LIMITED AREA OF THE OCMULGEE NATIONAL MONUMENT AND CALLING UPON THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL PARK SERVICES TO INITIATE AND TO ENGAGE ALL PROCESSES NECESSARY TO ASSESSMENT AND ACQUISITION OF SELECT REAL PROPERTY TRACTS LOCATED THEREIN SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **T. YAHOLA; R. CLEGHORN; K. MEDINA; D. NICHOLS**

• FAILED ON THE FLOOR TO ADOPT (4-20-0) TR 09-056, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE RE-NOMINATION OF **CHARLOTTE ANDERSON** TO SERVE ON THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CITIZENSHIP BOARD SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **DAVID HILL, LARRY CAHWEE, DARRELL PROCTOR, SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN, PETE BEAVER, TRAVIS SCOTT, LENA WIND, DAVID NICHOLS, KEEPER JOHNSON, TERRIE ANDERSON, CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS, JAMES JENNINGS, SHIRLENE ADE, RON CLEGHORN, CHERRAH QUIETT, SAM ALEXANDER, PAULA WILLITS, KARA MEDINA, ROBERT HUFFT** AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**.

• POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT SESSION (24-0-0) TR 09-057, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE CULTURAL PRESERVATION OFFICE TO APPLY FOR TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE STATUS WITH THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-2-0) TR 09-058, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **DEAN HUGHES** TO SERVE ON THE TRADE AND COMMERCE AUTHORITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPONSOR: **PETE BEAVER**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE **LARRY CAHWEE** AND **KARA MEDINA**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-3-0) TR 09-059, A TRIBAL RESOLUTON OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **HENRY HARJO** TO SERVE ON THE TRADE AND COMMERCE AUTHORITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPONSOR: **STEVE BRUNER**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **JAMES JENNINGS, CHERRAH QUIETT** AND **KARA MEDINA**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) TR 09-060, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL A SIGN AT THE CREEK NATION CASINO OKMULGEE CASINO SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (15-9-0) NCA 09-079, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE OKMULGEE AREA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION SPONSOR: **JAMES JENNINGS**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **EDDIE LAGRONE, LENA WIND, KEEPER JOHNSON, SHIRLENE ADE, RON CLEGHORN, CHERRAH QUIETT, SAM ALEXANDER, KARA MEDINA** AND **ROBERT HUFFT**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-080, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO BE USED TOWARD THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN OKMULGEE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON**; CO-SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE** ($75,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-093, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE TRIBAL SOCIAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM - FISCAL YEAR 2009 BUDGET SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** ($41,953.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-094, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OFFICE OF SECOND CHIEF'S BUDGET SPONSOR: **DAVID NICHOLS** ($13,080.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-095, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE CITIZENSHIP BOARD OFFICE - FISCAL YEAR 2009 BUDGET SPONSOR: **DAVID NICHOLS** ($52,860.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-096, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE REALTY DEPARTMENT - FISCAL YEAR 2009 BUDGET SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-097, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO BE USED TOWARD THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN OKMULGEE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **DAVID NICHOLS**; CO-SPONSOR: **SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN** ($5,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-098, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE TOWN OF DUSTIN TO ASSIST IN THE COMPLETION OF THE WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT SPONSOR: **THOMAS YAHOLA**; CO-SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE** ($30,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-099, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST A FULL BLOOD ELDER MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN WITH MEDICAL EXPENSES SPONSOR: **SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN** ($4,712.08)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-100, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN IN PURCHASING MEDICAL EQUIPMENT SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **K. MEDINA; R. CLEGHORN**($5,440.00)

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION NATIONAL COUNCIL
Session Palen - Cahkepohkaken (15)
2008-2009

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-101, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE DUCK CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY TO FUND THEIR RANCH/FARM OPERATIONS/YOUTH MENTORING PROGRAM THROUGH THE REMAINING FISCAL YEAR 2009 BUDGET PERIOD SPONSOR: **JAMES JENNINGS**; CO-SPONSOR: **KARA MEDINA** ($94,400.00)

• APPROVED (23-1-0) NCA 09-102, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) STUDENT SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT** ($1,165.00)

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-104, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE OKLAHOMA CITY MUSCOGEE (CREEK) ASSOCIATION FOR THE LEASE OF RENTAL SPACE SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **T. SCOTT; T. ANDERSON; K. MEDINA; L. WIND** ($6,600.00)

• POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT MEETING (24-0-0) NCA 09-105, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE LEGAL SERVICES COURTS COSTS & PUBLICATION FEE REVOLVING FUND SPONSOR: **STEVE BRUNER** ($10,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-106, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE CITY OF COWETA'S ADVANCE WARNING SIREN PROJECT SPONSOR: **JOHNNIE GREENE** ($17,300.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-1-0) NCA 09-107, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST TWO MUSCOGEE (CREEK) STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE JUNIOR NATIONAL YOUNG LEADERS CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON, DC SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE** ($2,629.00)

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

• APPROVED AS AMENDED TO ADOPT (23-1-0) NCA 09-108, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A LOAN TO THE EUFAULA INDIAN COMMUNITY TO FUND OPERATING COSTS AND INCIDENTALS FOR THE REMAINING FISCAL YEAR 2009 BUDGET PERIOD SPONSOR: **SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **A. JONES III; K. MEDINA** ($496,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **JAMES JENNINGS**.

REPRESENTATIVES **RON CLEGHORN, CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS** AND **PAULA WILLITS** WERE OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-0-0) NCA 09-109, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST AN ELDER MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN WITH MEDICAL EXPENSES SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **L. CAHWEE; D. HILL** ($2,100.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **RON CLEGHORN** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-1-1) NCA 09-110, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST MOUNDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **D. HILL; L. CAHWEE** ($8,425.00)

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

REPRESENTATIVE ABSTAINING WAS **CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS**.

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-1-0) NCA 09-111, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST THREE (3) MUSCOGEE (CREEK) YOUTH IN PARTICIPATING IN THE 2009 RINGSIDE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS SPONSOR: **SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN** ($281.25)

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

• POSTPONED INDEFINITELY (24-0-0) NCA 09-112, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE EUFAULA INDIAN COMMUNITY TO FUND THE 2009 EUFAULA INDIAN COMMUNITY POW-WOW SPONSOR: **SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN** ($35,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-114, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 09-075 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF STIMULUS FUNDS IN LIEU OF PROCEEDS OF SALE FUNDS FOR ADDITIONAL RENOVATION OF THE WETUMKA SATELLITE OFFICE (HOSPITAL) TO PROVIDE SPACE FOR THE HEAD-START SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE**; CO-SPONSOR: **THOMAS YAHOLA**

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-116, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FUND LITIGATION AGAINST THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS** ($150,000.00)

• APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-117, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO SUPPLEMENT THE DIVISION OF HEALTH - CONTRACT HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**; CO-SPONSOR: **KARA MEDINA** ($2,800,000.00)

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Eufaula Community expands

• Community holds grand opening for family fun facility

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Pictured above are skating enthusiasts lacing up their skates and enjoying the newly renovative Rink in Eufaula which recently held its Grand opening. The Rink is an entertainment facility operated by the Eufaula Indian Community.

THE RINK
OPEN FOR BUSINESS

EUFAULA – Eufaula Indian Community held a grand opening for The Rink, a family entertainment center which features one of the largest skating surfaces in southeast Oklahoma. The community has recently been hard at work in order to get the Rink in working order, a slew of volunteers even committee members rolled up the sleeves and went to work.

The labor is expected to be well appreciated by providing a fun and safe entertainment environment. The community has been looking forward to opening and found much support.

"Its all about having a safe place for the youth," says manager Ginette Owen. One of the rules is that youngsters have a ride to and from the facility.

"We are really excited to be opening to the public, we hope to be a good example for business diversity, serve the needs of the community," said EIC Chairman, Tom Pickering. The Rink will be open Fri.-Sat., from 5 p.m., to 10 p.m. The hope is to later expand those hours and take reservations for birthdays or other events to make use of the vast space.

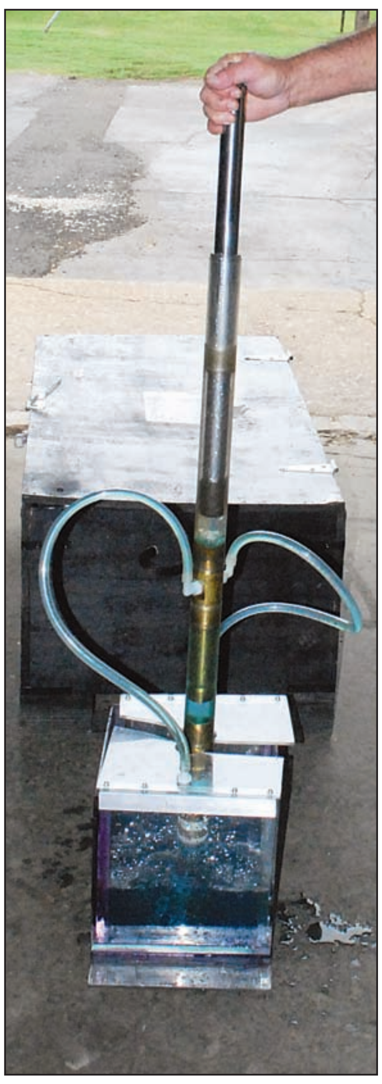
MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Native Business Spotlight: Thompson Pump Company

Media Release
Thompson Pump Company

OKMULGEE — Thompson Pump Company, manufacturer of subsurface sucker-rod pumps, is pleased to announce the release of its patent-pending Coal Bed Methane Pump.

This pump is a product of Production Engineer Charles Fisher's hard work and determination and has surpassed even Thompson Pump Company's highest expectations. The crossover CBM pump was initially developed for use in the gas production field but has achieved remarkable results in oil production. Thompson Pump Company has released the newly designed CBM pump for use in both methane and oil gas production. The new design will last longer and be more economical to run, providing more cost efficiency for alternative fuel production



The CBM, or Coal Bed Methane, pump was initially designed to counteract the problems that occur when water is drawn off coal gas deposits in gas production. Traditional pumps used in this matter were prone to gas locking, a build-up of gas in the chamber preventing the pump from drawing fluid and coal dust packing, which is a build-up of coal dust particles packing within the moving parts preventing the pumps from operating. These field problems required frequent replacement of down hole pumps, which was costly not only because of the charge to pull and replace the pump, in addition to the loss of production time.

Fisher demonstrates the workings of the new pump in the photograph at the left. The design not only prolongs the life of the equipment but also increase productivity. The design utilizes even the downstroke to push the water up. The result of the design which incorporates fluid displacement increases the amount of fluids the pump can move when compared with the CBM. Additionally, Fisher's pump design sports a self cleaning feature.

Over the past 10 years, Fisher has used his technical and engineering expertise to fine-tune a pump capable of addressing these problems. He designed the CBM to be self-cleaning and use a minimal amount of moving parts to prevent the coal dust packing. His design also prevents gas from filling up and locking a chamber, as there is a minimal amount of space for gas to accumulate. Fisher also designed this pump so that it pushes, rather than pulls, the fluid to the surface reducing the demand on the surface motor.

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Charles Fisher is pictured with his newly designed and pat pending pump which could potentially revolutionize the coal bed methane and even the oil industry.

"I believe this pump could even operate on solar energy in remote areas where the pump jacks are having to operate on gas and generators," said Charles Fisher.

In the field, the patented CBM pump has not only proven effective in preventing gas lock and coal packing, something a standard pump is not designed to do, but, as an added bonus, has shown effective against sand, gyp, scale and oil field well contaminates. The back flush design prevents the contaminates from interfering with the pumps operation making this pump suitable for both oil and gas production wells.

James R. Thompson Jr., President of Thompson Pump Company, volunteered his own oil leases as a test area for the CBM pump, where production almost doubled. Both men were amazed.

"I can only assume that there was gas lock occurring in the wells that we weren't aware of," said Fisher. Throughout testing, the pump has been placed in both oil and gas production wells and has astounded the company at its success.

Thompson Pump Company was founded in 1919 and is both API and ISO licensed. Its pumps are sold worldwide and are operating as far as Indonesia and Kuwait.

For additional information regarding the CBM or subsurface sucker rod pumps, please contact Thompson Pump Company at (918)-756-6164 or by mail at P. O. Box 310, Okmulgee, OK 74447. You may also find additional information about Thompson Pump Company on their Web site: at www.thompsonoilpump.com.

From July 15th thru August 26th customers can earn entries for our back to school drawings held on August 26th from 6pm until 11pm by playing VGT Games.

Customers that win $30 or more on a nickel or Quarter machine, $60 or more on a fifty cent machine or $100 or more on a dollar or higher denomination machine will receive a promotional ticket. The customers will then fill out the ticket and place it in the hopper at the promotions desk. Participants must be a player's club member & must be present to win.

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Christine Wind, veteran CHR, takes her leave from Muscogee Division of Health

Photo by Sandra Peters

Pictured above is long-time CHR Christine Wind with Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health Chief Operating Officer Seneca Smith.

by Sandra Turner Peters
Communications Coordinator
MCN Division of Health

OKMEMAH — In 1977 she remembered when the Health System was in a mobile home at the complex and Claude Cox was Principal Chief of the Muscogee Nation. Her title was CHR and her colleagues were Steve Wilson and Evelyn Parker. Christine Wind Roberts celebrated her 32 years this last spring with our Health System and gracefully bowed out to a much needed rest and retirement from her labors as one of the most beloved CHRs in our relatively short history of health service to our people.

She laughs and hugs a lot and she teases that she has changed the diapers of a few successful Muscogee adults here and there. She has delivered a baby in the backseat of her car, given money many times from her own pocket for dialysis patents to pay their utility bills, opened her home to the displaced, and holds firmly to the belief that within her hands lay the gifts of healing power from God.

Christine wanted to help her Indian People. Alice Watson recommended her for a job as a Community Coordinator in Okemah where the rules were simple, you must be stationed in the area that you lived, work within the boundaries of the Okemah area, and deliver medicine to the clinic for the care of patients.

Christine earned her CHR in 1979 and during the early years of Health Care at Muscogee Nation she would use her personal car to transport patients to Oklahoma City from Okemah three times a week. They would receive mileage for this service and would learn important information from her clients. Christine laughed when she stated that back then "All government cars back then were green in color." Throughout the years she began to upgrade her education with basic training in EMS which was located at the Complex. She worked with Ethel Wyatt and Glenda Scott who were CHR also. Christine learned to watch for the vital signs that may trigger illness and to assist patients who where discharged for follow-up service.

Christine is bilingual and is fluent in the Muscogee (Creek) language. Speaking her Muscogee Tongue was invaluable to her clients when she worked with the Medicine Men of our Tribe while transporting patients to their homes after hours.

Christine worked for the EMS for nine years in Okemah as a CHR and yet diversified her talents and gifts as the years rolled by. She learned to work with X-Ray, sterilization of instruments, and when needed, was an aide on the floor at the dental clinic in Okmulgee. She stated that "Claude Cox visited often and personally knew all the seven girls who served as CHR for our Tribe during those early years."

Cyndi Gilks, Manager of the CHR Program at the Muscogee Nation Division of Health commented that Christine's true passion was to transport dialysis patients to their treatments sometimes leaving at 3:00 in the morning. Once on a rainy day she was transporting a dialysis patient and came upon an accident on the highway. She climbed down into the ditch, covered the young man in a blanket and remained comforting him until the ambulance came.

Christine was adopted at two months of age by Bennie and Bessie Wind and it was their son, March Wind, and Mandy Hill who donated blood to save her life. She was diagnosed with Spinal Meningitis when she was an infant and needed blood transfusion to live. Christine has three children Kelly Deere, Robbie Deere and Tina Burgess. Her mother's name was Netta Ruth Berryhill. Christine stated that Dudley Heneha was her pastor when she was seven years of age. He won her to Jesus and she was baptized in a pond. Christine Wind Roberts has paid her dues in our Nation. She emerges as a truly a "real" person and will be most sorely missed.

Her Motto: "I am still Christine, and I will always be Christine, with my hands on my hips."

Scanners

Continued from A1

Kathy Greb, Director of Radiology at the Okemah Health System, stated that this technology was a long time in coming. "More patient exams have taken place at the Okemah Clinic than at the Veterans Administration Hospital when I was in training there. If we get a patient's results from others clinics we can schedule scans as late as 10 p.m. Cancer patients can get post chemo, and their three-month and six-month exams. There are no CT Scanners between Oklahoma and Tulsa to which a patient can access. Now patients can come to us for help and do not have to travel long distances."

Greb mentioned that the outside clinics which refer patients to our facility are Blackhawk, Pottawatomi, Kickapoo, Carl Albert and Claremore.

Gregory commented that the number of emergency room patients, inpatients, and outpatient clients helped by having this capability, has been numerous.

"The capacity to have patients data collected when they are referred to by a specialty physician or facility has improved and accelerated patient care. Many of our exams on the younger generation prove positive, therefore; we have the ability to catch disease at an early age in time to give our people a better quality of life," Gregory stated.

The Koweta Indian Health Facility houses a Siemens CT Scanner. Pete Tiger, Radiology Supervisor, and Rex M. Fann, RT (R) CT RDMS, who is experienced in Nuclear Medicine, demonstrated how to employ computed tomography (a medical imaging method using a digital geometry process).

Photo by Sandra Peters

Pictured above is the GT LIGHTSPEED CT SCANNER in Okemah along with Director of Radiology Kathy Greb and Radiology Technician Myra Gregory.

Koweta's CT Scanner is an impressive device which produces a volume of data that can be manipulated through a process known as "windowing" to demonstrate various structure of the body. This modern scanner, which has been in use for over two years in Koweta, will allow hundreds of slices of film to be reformatted in various planes as volumetric (3D) representations of structures. This machine is the fastest tool for studying the chest, abdomen and pelvis because it provides detailed, cross-sectional views of all types of tissue, and according to Pete, this machine has revolutionized the pathological study on patients at the Koweta Indian Health Facility. It is the preferred method for diagnosing many different cancers, including lung, liver and pancreatic cancer. The CT Scanner allows physicians to confirm the presence of a tumor and measure its size, precise location and the extent of the tumors involvement with other nearby tissue.

The number of exams in Koweta last year ran over 2,000. Okemah accesses approximately another 1,250 exams during the year.

"Tomography" is derived from the Greek word tomos (slice) and graphein (to write). The CT Scanner is in constant motion when being used and its times sequences of axial images is scanned very quickly. These machines take center stage as they stand alone in a room. They are massive and silent, concealing the power they yield in the science of pathology.

HEALTHNOTES

Super striders walk toward health in Nene Hvkoce

by William Fixico
Exercise Programs Manager

OKMULGEE — Another year has come and gone in the walking program and we had an exciting year. This year we had 1,169 people sign up for the program, and 423 remained active to the end. That's around 36 percent of the walking participants. The number of "Super Striders," those who walk at least 200 minutes a week, increased from 217 last year to 220 this year.

The Nene Hvkoce Walking Program recognizes five communities with at least 20 participants who walk at least 20 minutes a day or 100 minutes a week for at least six months. Communities who have the highest average minutes a week win. First-year winners recieve a half-mile walking trail. After the first year, if the same community wins again, $3,500 worth of equipment is added to improve their trail. This year's winners and the number of years they have won are: The Okmulgee area, at the Okmulgee Community Center 3rd year; the Eufaula area, Checotah Community Center 1st year; the Koweta area, Koweta Community Center 3rd year; the Sapulpa area, Bristow Community Center 3rd year; the Okemah area, Okemah Community Center1st year.

The walking program participants were able to earn extra points in several ways. They can earn extra points by running or walking in different events. Several participants earned these extra points this year. I would like to recognize Caroline Glenn from Tulsa community and Susan Sulphur from Duck Creek Community for their outstanding participation in four running events within three months time. They started with Little Rock marathon, then the Lake McMurtry's Ultra Trail Race in Stillwater, a marathon in Oklahoma City and finally, the Andy Payne Marathon in Oklahoma City. Congratulations Caroline and Susan!

We would also like to recognize Billy Kelley from the Checotah Community for his dedication to his health. Kelley is part of the walking program and has done an exceptional job participating in many running events in the last two years, even competing in Ultra Marathons! With his dedication, he was able to get his wife Debbie involved in the walking program and eventually in marathons as well. So we congratulate Billy and Debbie Kelley's commitment in staying healthy.

We ended the program with the MCN Festival 5K run or walk event. We had 54 participants from different communities within the walking program, who participated and finished the 5k.

Although the walking program is over, we in the Diabetes Program want to encourage you to keep up the good work and keep walking over the summer months. Here are several safety tips to keep you safe this summer: dress cool, walking in early morning or late evenings, drink plenty of water before and after your walk, and have a partner to walk with. Have a great summer and we'll see you again in October.

Have a healthy summer (continued from July MNN)

by Tina Jo Gordon, RN,CDE
Okemah Indian Health Center

OKEMAH — Apply a cream to heels to help prevent dry and cracked feet. Do not apply cream between the toes.

A few other summertime tips include: Wear sun screen to prevent sun burns; Exercise in a cool place such as an air-conditioned gym, or early in the morning or late in the evening; Keep hydrated. Prevent dehydration by drinking plenty of caffeine-free fluids such as water or sugar free drinks; Use insect repellent to decrease the risk of bug bites while outside; Store glucose meter and strips in a cool, dry place; If you have been outside, check yourself for any ticks.

One of the most important things to remember is to keep blood sugar levels in control to help prevent complications. Contact your local diabetes team for any questions.

Diabetes

Continued from A1

There will be lots of exhibitor giveaways, admission is free and lunch will be provided both days. Attendance preference will be given to MCN citizens with limited seating for spouses of MCN citizens and other American Indian community members.

Come and learn about the latest research on obesity's connection to youth type 2 diabetes, strategies for early intervention and prevention and the changing picture of this condition.

Young Creek citizens are at risk as it has been found by the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention, about one in every 400 to 500 children ages 18 and younger, have diabetes. In addition to the increasing commonness of type 1 diabetes, the National Diabetes Education Program reports this group is also developing type 2 diabetes at an alarming rate as more members of this group become overweight and inactive. The large numbers of type 2 diabetes in this group may also be underestimated since it often goes undiagnosed for long periods of time.

On-site registration will begin Thursday, August 20, at 8 a.m., with activities lasting until 4 p.m., Friday, August 21, early morning activities will include Tai Chi and a health walk beginning at 7:30 a.m., to 8:15 a.m.

There are no accommodations for children and the summit is free. To obtain complete information about the Summit's program and speaker presentations, look for flyers at most MCN clinics, community centers and churches, or call Terrie Anderson at (918) 237-1417 or Gloria Moore at (800) 782-8291 or (918) 756-3334, Ext. 245 or 237.

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“Building” the Muscogee Nation

• Construction of new facility set to begin in Spring 2010

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Pictured above are tribal officials at the ground-breaking ceremony for the tribal construction building which will be located directly beside the Veteran Affairs Service Office on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation main complex in Okmulgee, Okla.

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — On Tuesday, July 28, tribal officials gathered to break ground on an estimated $2 million building project for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. In attendance were tribal construction representatives Brent Coleman and Solomon Morgan along with National Council Rep. David Hill, Speaker Thomas Yahola, representative from the Office of Second Chief Odette Freeman, Ed Bishop of EDB Architects of Norman and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Executive Director Claude Sumner.

The new facility will be located on the main complex neighboring the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veteran Affairs Service Office and Transportation. Dirt-work on the 8,000 square-foot facility is scheduled to begin in early August with an estimated finish date set for Spring 2010.

Okmulgee Indian Community Summer Youth Enrichment Program

Media Release
MCN Social Services Dept.

OKMULGEE — The Summer Youth Enrichment Program ran June 8 through July 17, 2009, where 22 Muscogee (Creek) youth enjoyed enrichment activities held at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center.

The program started with a field trip to “The M.e.t” recycling center in Broken Arrow. The theme was “Go Green” and the youth were exposed to recycling and learned how to take care of Mother Earth. They picked up trash each week along the highway in front of the new OIC Smoke Shop and Gift Shop.

Creek elders Sue White and Bertha Taylor came to teach pottery and basket making. OIC Vice-Chair Pearl Thomas taught participants to make frybread and grape dumplings and Liz Thomas taught conversational Creek words and helped pot plants.

William Fixico of the Diabetes Program taught the youth fun games as they exercised every Thursday. The youth began each day with a walk around the Elderly Housing Apartments.

Arts and crafts, as well as weekly field trips to the library and the YMCA, were activities enjoyed by all. A special thank-you goes to all parents that donated food items, and to the speakers that took time out of their busy day to come and speak with the children.

Photo courtesy of OIC

Pictured above is OIC Vice Chair Pearl Thomas teaching participants of the Summer Youth Enrichment Program how to make a tasty piece of frybread and grape dumplings

MCN Social Services and Food Distribution Field Schedule

Coweta	Community Center 8:30 - 11 a.m.	2nd Tuesday of the Month
Glenpool	Community Center 9:00 - 10 a.m.	2nd Wednesday of the Month
Bristow	Community Center 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.	2nd Thursday of the Month
Eufaula	Community Center 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.	3rd Tuesday of the Month
Sapulpa	Community Center 9:30 - 11 a.m.	3rd Wednesday of the Month
Checotah	Community Center 9:00 - 11 a.m.	3rd Thursday of the Month
Weleetka	Community Center 9:00 - 10 a.m.	4th Tuesday of the Month
Okemah	Community Center 9:00 - 10 a.m.	4th Wednesday of the Month
Holdenville	Community Center 9:00 - 11 a.m.	4th Thursday of the Month

PROGRAMNOTES

WIC Program introduces new and improved food package

by Leslie Luckett, MPH
MCN WIC Program Director

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation WIC Program is pleased to announce the implementation of the New WIC Food Packages on Aug. 3, 2009.

“These changes reflect what is best for the health of our WIC participants,” said Muscogee (Creek) Nation WIC Director Leslie Luckett. “We all know that nutrition plays an important role in our health. This is one more way Public Health is working to ensure nutritious foods are a part of our everyday diets.”

The WIC food packages provide supplemental foods designed to meet the special nutritional needs of income eligible pregnant, breastfeeding, non-breastfeeding postpartum women, infants and children up to five years of age who are at nutritional risk.

The revised food packages retain the same food categories previously allowed under WIC, but add new food categories and optional substitutions to better meet the needs of WIC’s diverse population including:

- Cash Value Benefit for the purchase of fresh or frozen fruits and vegetables;
- Tofu and soy products;
- Whole grain products to include brown rice, bread, tortillas and bulgur wheat;
- Baby food that includes fruits and vegetables; and
- Baby meats for fully breastfed infants.

The changes align the WIC food packages with the 2005 Dietary Guidelines for Americans and Infant Feeding Practice Guidelines of the American Academy of Pediatrics. They reflect recommendations made by the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies in its report, “WIC Food Packages: Time for a Change.” Please join us in our enthusiasm of this historic event.

For more information, please contact the WIC office at (918) 758-2722 or 1-800-648-2302.

Social Services offers assistance with air conditioning units

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — The Air Conditioning Program provides small window units for enrolled Creek citizens 60 years of age and older who have no air conditioning unit or whose existing air conditioning is inadequate. Those under 60 years of age with a medical need are also eligible. Delivery and installation are also available for those living in the service area. Citizens living outside the service area are required to pick up the unit.

Guidelines are as follows:

- Must be enrolled with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation (CDIB is not accepted)
- At least one member of the household must be a vulnerable person:
  - Elder— 60 years or older
  - Disabled—receiving SSA disability payments
  - Medically needy Assistance:
  - One window air conditioning unit

Required Documents

- Citizenship cards for all members of the household
- Social Security cards for all members of the household
- If disabled, proof of SSA payment (copy of award)
- If medically needy, a statement from your doctor stating that air conditioning is a medical necessity
- Notarized statement from a non-family member verifying that the home has no air conditioning or existing air conditioning is inadequate.

For questions or additional information, contact Social Services Department by calling (918) 759 - 2334.

Social Services continues to offer summer energy assistance

Media Release
MCN Social Services Dept.

OKMULGEE — The Social Services Department is now offering two programs for summer energy assistance. We will continue to take applications through September 30, 2009, or until the funds are exhausted.

LIHEAP (Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program) is available for low-income families residing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation service boundaries.

The Tribal Energy Program is available for elders (55 and older) or those receiving disability benefits through the Social Security Administration.

Applicants may choose to apply in a number of ways including in person. No appointment is necessary and clients will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis. Office hours are 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. We are located at 2971 N. Wood Drive, just north of the MCN Housing Building.

Citizens may also apply by mail, fax or in person. Applicants should keep paying their bill until they receive an approval letter. Please allow at least 45 days for processing.

Please contact Social Services at (918) 759-2334 for additional information. The toll-free number is 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7995.

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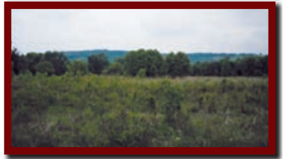

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The back-to-school basics

Higher Education Program sets Dec. 15, 2009 deadline for Spring

by Lee Longhorn
MNN Intern

OKMULGEE — Enrolled Muscogee (Creek) students applying for assistance from the Creek Nation Higher Education Department may qualify to receive aide from one or more of the grant programs, upon verification of eligibility.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation college-bound students or students currently enrolled in higher education institutes have missed the deadline for education assistance for the Fall 2009 semester. The deadline to apply was June 1, 2009.

Students wishing to apply for spring semester assistance have until December 15. The MCN Higher Education Grant Program offers two undergraduate grant programs, a post-graduate grant program and an incentive program to eligible students enrolled part-or full-time at an accredited school.

Students are required to keep a certain grade point average for certain grants and are responsible for submitting all required documents into the higher education program when applying. Students maintaining a grade point average of a 3.0 or better, each semester may be eligible to receive a tribal incentive grant.

The tribal incentive grant is awarded to enrolled citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation who meet the required grade point average of 3.0 or better, each semester. Awards are given based on a student's status. Full time status students will be awarded $700 per semester/quarter and part time students may receive $350 per semester/quarter. This program is limited to 10 semesters and students must submit an official copy of their college transcript showing the previous semester's grade in order to be eligible.

There are restrictions to the grant programs, including: limited number of semesters, required minimum grade point averages and the availability of funding.

Chanenna Davis, M.Ed., and Higher Education Manager, says "Go ahead and apply even if you [the student] are unsure of eligibility." Davis, who's seen Creek students excel in college and universities across the state and nation, from undergraduate to graduate degrees adds, "I'm very proud of the students and think they're doing a great job."

For more information regarding higher education grant programs applicants may request information to:

Attn: Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Higher Education
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee,Ok 74447
Office: (918) 732-7689
Fax: (918) 732-7694

Health news: don't forget immunizations!

Media Release
Oklahoma State Deptment of Health

OKLAHOMA CITY — The new school year will start soon and back-to-school immunizations are now in full swing. If you haven't yet, now is the time to check your child's immunization record and schedule any vaccinations needed as soon as possible with your health care provider or local county health department.

Ensuring the safety and health of our Native American communities is our responsibility. If enough people in our communities are protected, vaccine-preventable diseases will not be passed to our children, our families, and our communities.

It is especially important to ensure the health of our families. An infant's immune system does not yet have the necessary defenses to fight off infectious diseases. This makes our children more susceptible to these illnesses. Immunization is one of the most important tools we have to protect our children from disease.

"Vaccinating our children against preventable diseases is one of the most important ways parents and caregivers can protect their children," said State Health Commissioner Dr. Terry Cline. "In the past 50 years, increased public awareness about the importance of childhood immunizations has helped eliminate major outbreaks of disease like polio and measles. However, we must continue to ensure children are protected or these diseases could return as quickly as the measles did in parts of the U.S. in 2008."

The demand for vaccine turns into a rush every year before school starts mainly because of the boosters due for children entering kindergarten. Needed booster doses include DTaP to protect against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough; polio vaccine; and a second dose of measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine for children 4 to 6 years of age. These vaccinations are required to attend kindergarten. A second dose of varicella vaccine (chickenpox) is recommended for all children at 4 to 6 years of age. This dose is not required in Oklahoma but is very important to prevent chickenpox outbreaks in schools.

Also, children transferring into Oklahoma schools from other states may need hepatitis A vaccine. This two-dose vaccine series is not required in some states; however, it is required in Oklahoma for all students in grades kindergarten through twelfth grade.

Even though the following vaccines are not required to attend school, they are recommended for children ages 11 years and older:

· A second dose of varicella vaccine

· A Tdap booster to protect against whooping cough, tetanus and diphtheria, because immunity decreases with time

· Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4) because the risk for this disease increases for those 15 through 24 years of age

· Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine for girls to prevent two types of the virus that cause 70 percent of cervical cancer

College students in Oklahoma are also required to present vaccination records. All college students are required to have MMR and hepatitis B vaccines and first-time college enrollees who will live on campus are also required to receive the meningococcal vaccine (MCV). The college requirements do not apply to students enrolling only in courses delivered via the Internet or through distance learning in which the student is not required to attend class on campus.

While preparing for back to school, the OSDH suggests that parents be mindful of the new pandemic flu ("swine flu") that is circulating in Oklahoma and throughout the nation. Children may be exposed to the new flu when they return to school, and schools will be vigilant in screening and sending home those children with fever and respiratory symptoms. Parents and caregivers who work outside the home should plan now for how they will handle caring for sick children at home. While a vaccine is not yet ready to prevent the new H1N1 influenza virus, school children are likely to be a priority group for immunization when the vaccine becomes available. Even so, there could be several weeks when children will be exposed to the virus before the new H1N1 vaccine is available for distribution.

If you have any questions about back-to-school vaccinations, or preparing for the new flu, check with your health care provider, call your county health department, or call the OSDH Immunization Service at (405) 271-4073 (Editor's note: though this information specifically pertains to those living in Oklahoma, each state has its own set of guidelines pertaining to back-to-school vaccinations).

Top 15 tips for enhancing the college experience

MNN Staff

OKMULGEE — With the new school year fast approaching, the *MNN* is pleased to include a collection of tips for the new or returning student or just some insightful advice on enhancing your college experience.

1. Go to Class - Sounds easy but by attending class, you'll receive vital information regarding tests, change in due dates and be adequately prepared for any assignment or test.

2. Meet with your professors - Show them you are interested in the subject material or having a hard time understanding the curriculum. Professors shedule office hours to specifically meet with students.

3. Strive for good grades - While good grades may have come naturally in high school, in college you have to earn them.

4. Take advantage of the study resources on campus - If you have trouble in a specific subject, most colleges have labs or tutors for certain subjects. Asking a professor, academic advisor or upper classmen where to find such help.

5. Find the ideal place to study - Find a place with a little distractions as possible, where you're able to get your work done and study.

6. Make connections with students in your classes - Whether asking for notes or creating a study group, this network of individuals will help you in the long run.

7. Don't Procrastinate... Prioritize - Having your homework done before the deadline and being adequately prepared for tests help keep your mind healthy. Thhe night before a test and not able to the material is not a good time to try and prepare.

8. Get involved on campus- Consider joining a student organization, club, sorority/fraternity or sports team. Joining an extra-curricular activity can help students overcome homesickness and a feeling of not quite belonging.

9. Become an expert on course requirements and due dates - Having the excuse "I didn't know it was due today" won't work in college. You're expected to know everything about the class from the syllabi.

10. Don't feel pressured to make a hasty decision about a career or a major - College is the time for you to really discover who you are, what you enjoy doing, what you're good at and what you want to be. It's nota race; take your time and enjoy exploring your options.

11. Don't cut corners- College is about learning. If you procrastinate and cram, you may still do well on tests, but you'll learn very little.

12. Be prepared to feel overwhelmed - There's a lot going on in your life right now. Expect to have moments where it seems a bit too much. As one student says, "be prepared to feel unprepared." The trick is knowing that you're not the only one feeling that way.

13. Keep track of your money - If you've never had to create a budget, now is the time to do so. Find ways to stretch your money - and as best you can, avoid all those credit card solicitations you'll soon be receiving.

14. Stay on campus as much as possible - Whether it's homesickness, a job, or a boy/girlfriend back at home, try not to leave campus too soon or too often. The more time you spend getting to know the campus and your new friends, the more you'll feel at home at school. Take advantage of all the cultural and social events that happen on campus.

15. Learn to cope with homesickness - It's only natural that there will be times when you miss your family, even if you were one of those kind of people who couldn't wait to get away. Find a way to deal with those feelings, such as making a phone call or sending some mail home, periodically.

JOM Program congratulates Pigeon as first OHS summer school grad

Photo submitted

Pictured above is Damien Pigeon, the first graduate of the Okmulgee JOM Summer School Program who recently had the honor of receiving his diploma from both Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and Okmulgee High School Principal Phillip Ware. Also in attendance were OHS Counselor Danny Kennedy, OHS Vice-Principal James Smith and JOM Coordinator for Okmulgee Public Schools Jan Colombin.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
School Clothing Assistance Program

NEW **START DATE FOR THE SCHOOL CLOTHING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IS JUNE 1, 2009!!**

WHO: The School Clothing Assistance Program is to assist Creek students who are enrolled as a Muscogee Creek Citizen. Students must be 3 years old and enrolled in any Head-Start or private school, at least 4 years old and enrolled in a public or private school, no higher than the 12th grade. Home schooled children ages 5 to 18 are also eligible.

WHAT: A grant of $200.00 to purchase clothing items and/or shoes.

WHEN: **ATTENTION! New Start Date!!** Applications will be available beginning June 1, 2009 and will end October 2, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

WHERE: Applications will be available at the School Clothing Program office, MCN Indian Community Centers and the MCN Child Development Centers.
You can also call 918-756-2024 or 800-482-1979 to request an application be mailed or faxed to you!

For questions or additional information, contact the
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
School Clothing Program
at 918-756-2024 or 800-482-1979

The School Clothing Program Office is located behind the Social Services Building at 2971 N. Wood Drive, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

McCombs Family celebrates 96th annual reunion

LIVING - B3

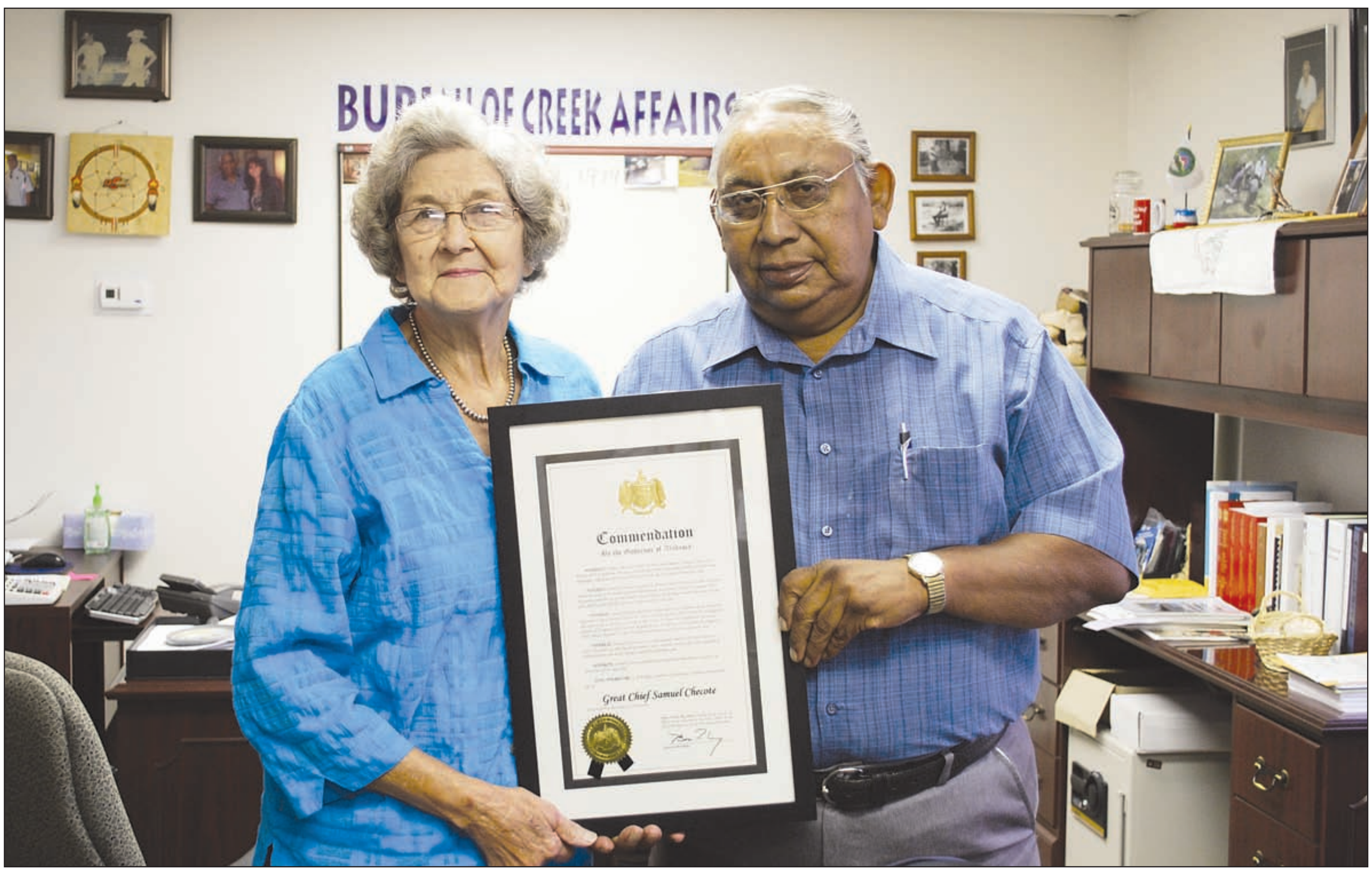
MCN honored by Puyallup visit SPOTLIGHT - B5

FEATURES

SECTION B • www.themuscogeecreeknation.com • **August 2009**

Alabama Gov. honors Checote

• Descendent presented with commendation



MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Pictured above Second Chief Alfred Berryhill presents a Commendation from the Gov. of Alabama to Mary Ann Kane. The Commendation honors Chief Samuel Checote, Kane's grandfather.

CHECOTE HONORED

OKMULGEE – Straight from Gov. Bob Riley of the State of Alabama, Mary Ann Kane holds a Commendation which honors the Grandfather of Kane, "The Great Chief, Samuel Checote."

"We received this Commendation, and thought it would be best to present to it a relative and also record the document for history," stated Second Chief Alfred Berryhill.

A Creek Methodist minister and politician, Samuel Checote was born near Fort Mitchell, Ala., in 1819. A full-blood Creek, he received instruction at the Asbury Manual Labor School near Fort Mitchell. After removal to Indian Territory, Checote and his parents settled west of Okmulgee in 1829.

Only during the Civil War did he exchange his devotion to the word of God to that of the sword. He began his Confederate service as captain of Company B of the First Regiment of Creek Mounted Volunteers on August 13, 1861, and on August 19, 1861, he became lieutenant colonel of his regiment.

Checote served as chief for 12 years, overcoming major challenges leading a tribe divided by war.

"I plan on having the Commendation displayed at church," said Kane.

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Local student makes impact

• LeGrand participates in 12th annual NNAYI program

AIPP/*Julie Bottoms*

Pictured above are National Native American Youth Initiative (NNAYI) program participants in front of the National Library of Medicine in Washington, D.C.

Media Release
MCN Public Relations

NEWALLA – A McLoud High School student was part of 60 teenagers nationwide to participate in the 12th Annual Patty Iron Cloud National Native American Youth Initiative (NNAYI) program. 16-year-old Miranda LeGrand, a Muscogee (Creek) citizen and the child of LeeAnn Latour, attended the nine-day program held in Washington, D.C. this summer. The Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP) sponsors the program to educate and encourage more Native American students into health professions.

"We expose the students to a variety of health careers," explains Lucinda Myers, Health Careers Student Programs Director. "The summer program allows them to visit national health organizations and academic institutions."

The students were taken on field trips that included tours of the National Institutes of Health, Office of Minority Health, and George Washington University School of Medicine.

Students attended a series of lectures and interactive workshops that featured guest speakers, a combination of physicians, researchers, and educators in the field of medicine.

"It's important for the students to hear from these health care professionals. They are successful Native Americans who serve as role models and mentors. They inspire our students to continue their educations and set high goals," says Myers.

NNAYI was created in 1998 to increase the number of American Indian/Alaska Native students entering health professions and biomedical research. The curriculum is designed to prepare students for admission to college and professional schools. Students also receive information regarding financial aid, counseling, and other college-related assistance. Over the past decade, more than 600 students have received scholarships to attend the NNAYI program. To be selected for the NNAYI summer program, students must be age 16-18 and express interest in health care or biomedical research.

River Spirit Casino adds new Controller

Media Release
River Spirit Casino

TULSA — River Spirit Casino, one of Oklahoma's premier gaming and entertainment facilities, owned and operated by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation announced the hiring of two new staff members and the promotion of two internal staff members.

Joseph Wolff, originally from Somerville, N.J., has recently joined River Spirit Casino as the Controller for the new $195 million casino. Joseph has over 15 years experience as a public and private accountant, is a CPA, and holds a Bachelor's of Science degree in Finance, Real Estate, and Accounting.

SEE HIRES - B2

> *"I am very excited to be here in Tulsa and a part of the River Spirit Casino team."*
>
> **- Joseph Wolff**
> *River Spirit Casino*
> *Controller*

August Extra Edition to feature candidate profiles

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board will conduct the National Council primary election Saturday, Sept. 19, followed by a general election to be held on Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009 at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

In order to provide citizens with an overview of each candidate's platform, the *Muscogee Nation News* will give each candidate the opportunity to share their vision for the Nation's future.

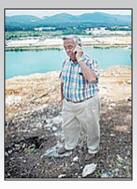
Profiles will be featured in the upcoming August *Extra Edition* and should be 150 words or less. National Council candidates may include name, district, age, clan, tribal town, church, ceremonial ground, education and any relevant experience. Appointments for photography may also be scheduled, if needed.

For more information, please contact Angel Ellis at (918) 732-7697. Submissions will be accepted via e-mail at: aellis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov, or by fax at: (918) 758-0824. Candidates may also mail information to:

MCN Communications
c/o Angel Ellis
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74437

CULTURE B2

Oxford plows beneath sacred site for development of new Sam's Club



LIVING B3

And Still the Waters Run: *Hiawatha*

LIFESTYLES B4

Magdalene Ann Alexander

SPOTLIGHT B5

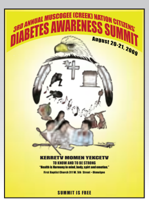
Screen Print Division: a commercial success

OBITUARIES B6

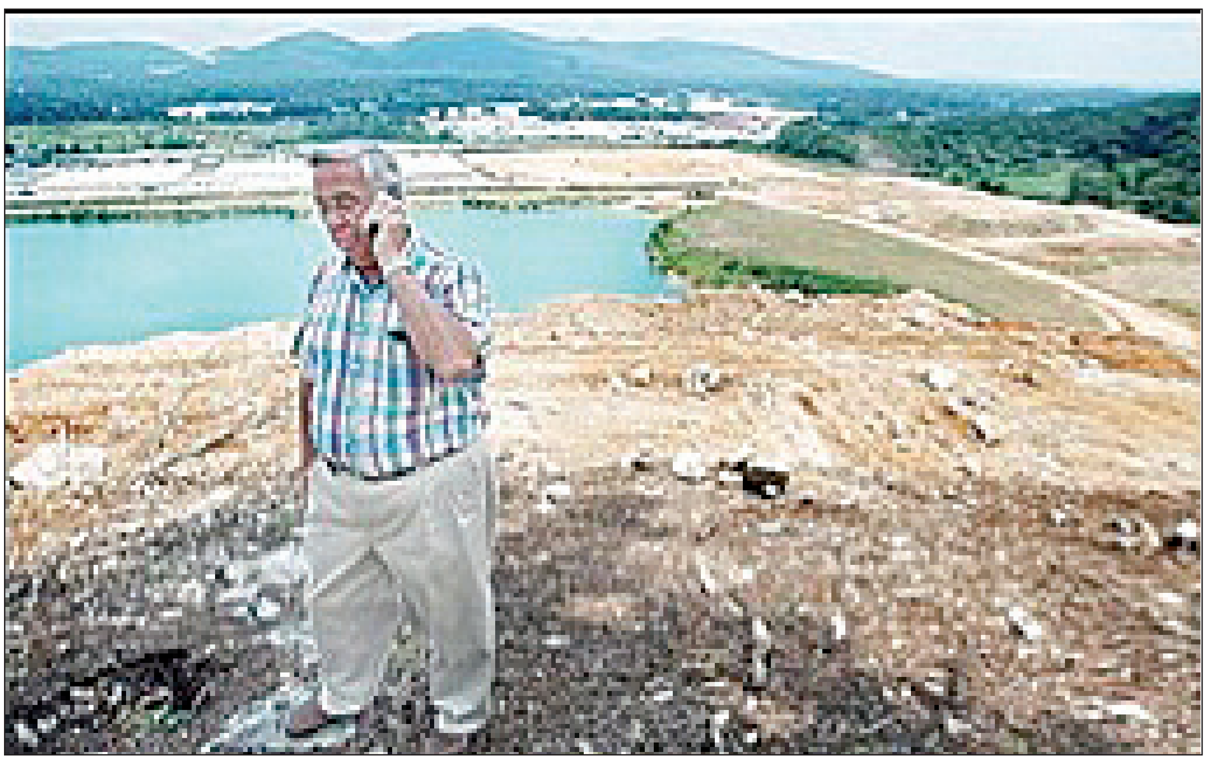
Wanda Frazer

ADVERTISEMENT B8

Diabetes Awareness Summit


3RD ANNUAL MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CITIZENS
DIABETES AWARENESS SUMMIT
August 20-21, 2009

Oxford plows beneath sacred site for development of new Sam's Club



AP Photo/*Jay Reeves*

Pictured above is city project manager Fred Denney standing atop a hill called Signal Mountain in Oxford, Ala. The city is removing soil from the hill to provide fill dirt for a new retail development despite claims that rocks atop the hill are part of an ancient, sacred Indian site. The new development is shown in the background.

by Jay Reeves
Associated Press

OXFORD, Ala. — Bucket loaders and bulldozers are tearing apart a hill that researchers call the foundation of an ancient Native American site to provide fill dirt for a Sam's Club store, a move that appalls preservationists.

Tribal advocates and state officials say a large stone mound that tops the 200-foot rise was put there a millennium ago by Indians during a religious observance. It is similar to rock mounds found up and down the Eastern Seaboard, historians say, and likely dates to Indians of the Woodlands period that ended in 1000 A.D.

"It's just heartbreaking," said Elizabeth Ann Brown of the Alabama Historical Commission. "I find it hard to believe that for fill dirt anyone would do this."

Despite a city-commissioned study that found tribal artifacts in the red clay that makes up the mound, Oxford Mayor Leon Smith denies the work by the city is damaging anything important. He said the stones atop the hill are a natural part of what locals call Signal Mountain and were exposed by millions of years of erosion.

"It's the ugliest old hill in the world," said Smith, who has overseen a mushrooming of big-box stores in this east Alabama city of 15,000 during his seven terms as mayor.

The hill certainly is an eyesore these days. Its wooded sides have been stripped bare, and the red soil is being trucked downhill to the site of a new Sam's warehouse store and a small retail strip, where it's being used to build up a good base for foundations.

The rock mound perched atop the hill is mostly undisturbed so far, though it is denuded save for a few spindly trees that haven't been knocked down. Officials with Sam's Club, a division of Wal-Mart Stores Inc., said no material from the rock mound is going into the site where the store is under construction.

Brown said the state lacks the power to halt the project, and petitions and protests haven't done anything to stop the work. Big yellow dump trucks rumble up and down the hill, located behind a retail development just off Interstate 20, about 60 miles east of Birmingham.

City project manager Fred Denney said officials plan to remove the top of the hill eventually to create an elevated, eight-acre site that will overlook the Choccolocco Valley and the city of Oxford.

"It would be a beautiful view," said the mayor, who envisions a motel or restaurant atop the hill.

Indian historian Robert Thrower is aghast at what he sees as the city's lack of concern for the historical importance of the site, which he said is similar to others along the East Coast. Groups have saved rock mounds in Montague, Mass., North Smithfield, R.I., and elsewhere.

"With increasing development occurring, these sites are in jeopardy," said Thrower, a member of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians in Alabama and chairman of culture and heritage for the United South and Eastern Tribes. "Here, you're looking at a site that is a sacred site for us."

Denney said the city purchased the hill and surrounding acreage several years ago for $10 million for development. Faced with questions about an ancient Indian site, Smith said the city paid the University of Alabama $60,000 to study the mound.

University of Alabama researchers found six shards of Indian pottery under rocks atop the mountain, and their report said the mound was likely built by Indians during the late Woodlands period.

Researchers didn't discover any evidence of burial sites among the rocks, though they said such remains could have been lost to erosion or looting. Oxford's mayor said the lack of bones means there's no reason not to bulldoze the mound.

"It's just a pile of rocks is all it is," said Smith.

City officials deny they are insensitive to history. Denney said officials have banned development at a 12-acre site about a half-mile from the hill because archaeologists found evidence that Indians once had a community there.

Thrower said Indians from that settlement possibly carried many of the rocks up the steep hill to mark a place of prayer or to commemorate special events. There's no way to move the stones elsewhere and preserve the site, he said.

"A colleague of mine referred to these places as `prayers in stone,'" Thrower said. "For us it's immaterial whether there are burial or historical artifacts present. The site itself is historic."

Kialegee Tribal Town

(Continued from July MNN)

by Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Cultural Preservation

WETUMKA — Opothleyahola's party, which included Kialegee were active in putting down the resistance with this task accomplished, he finally was allowed to begin the removal of his own people.

Because of other complications Kialegee with Hilibi, Assilanpi and Fish Pond preceded Tuckabatchee to Indian Territory. The influential Creek, Benjamin Marshall was part of the emigrating contractors for this removal. Lieut. Edward Deas conducted military responsibility over this detachment of Indians. Kialegee's removal began December 6, 1835 from Wetumpka, Alabama. This journey was partially overland and partially by water. They arrived at Ft. Gibson, February 2, 1836. From a point, which was actually west of the Verdigris River, the Kialegee settled southward in the Hanna, Eufaula, area to re-establish their Ceremonial Tribal Town.

Hires

Continued from B1

Jim Christian

Tiffany Ellis

Most recently Joseph played a key role in opening Gulfstream Park Racing and Casino as the CFO and Director of Finance. "I am very excited to be here in Tulsa and apart of the River Spirit Casino team, I am eager to make a contribution to the success here," said Joseph of his recent appointment.

The new Public Relations Manager at River Spirit Casino is Tiffany Ellis. Tiffany is a Muscogee (Creek) citizen, who previously held the position of Marketing Administrative Assistant. Tiffany joined the property more than a year ago, transferring from Creek Nation Casino-Muscogee and has made many contributions since her arrival. Most recently, her impact on the public relations aspect of opening River Spirit Casino, which included the planning of the press conference where the name of the casino was revealed and the opening day events. She is very ambitious and is highly driven towards the success of, not only River Spirit Casino, but also the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. "Tiffany has shown many leadership capabilities, as well as, event planning and organization skills. She brings a fresh look to the public relations area at River Spirit Casino," said Jennifer Cross, Director of Marketing for River Spirit Casino.

Jim Christan, previously the Financial Analyst, has recently been promoted, to the new position of Director of Financial Planning and Analysis. Jim joined the Muscogee (Creek) Nation casino team five years ago as the Operations/Financial Manager at the Duck Creek Casino property, later becoming the General Manager. Jim left Duck Creek in July 2008 to join the Tulsa team as the Financial Analyst. Jim has over 12 years experience in Financial Planning and played a huge role in finalizing the financing for the new River Spirit Casino. "Jim's financial background in this industry has already proven him to be a valuable asset to our casino business during this sensitive economic atmosphere," stated Shawn S. Smyth General Manager at River Spirit Casino of Jim's recent promotion.

MVSKOKE LANGUAGE ACTIVITY

BASIC CONVERSATION

Below is a list of conversation phrases:
Write the correct Alphabet on the
line with the numbered answers

(a) Hiyuce emofv fulle towes.
(b) Hiya hake tos.
(c) Cvstvle cvmpusen ocaket.
(d) Vce hompetv takepe tos.
(e) Vpvske tat hayephoyv res.

1. The corn is ready to eat.
2. The had sweet watermelons.
3. If gets too hot.
4. Someone will make parched corn.
5. We are in the month of July.

Mail in your answer to Creek Nation of Oklahoma,
Mvskoke Language Program
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447
Winner will be announced in August Extra issue

TREATING
DRUG & ALCOHOL ABUSE
IN ADULTS
Best clinical practices in the dignity & respect of tribal tradition.
Specializing in painkiller & meth addictions
Keetoowah Cherokee Treatment Services
Tulsa
918-835-3017
kctxs.com
Quapaw Counseling Services
Oklahoma City
405-672-3033
qcs-okc.com
Miami
918-542-1786
quapawcounselingservices.com

CMHI
Children's Mental Health Initiative
Protecting the Future
"NETTV-OREN VKETECETVN"
Program goals
- Expand access to services for children and adolescents through out the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.
- Offer individual services based on the child and family's situation.

Population of Focus
- Native American youth and their families who are struggling with an emotional issue and/or substance abuse.
- Infants and young adults from birth to 21 years.
- Children and youth involved with child welfare system.

We need your help!
- Help promote community involvement.
- Help us locate the children/youth in need.
- Inform other community members about CMHI.

For more information call (918) 224-9307
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Children's Mental Health Initiative

Mvskoke Country: *Fertile Plains of the Creek Nation*

by James Treat

SAPULPA — A recent article in the *Sapulpa Daily Herald* reprinted a description of the area originally published in 1906, just before Oklahoma statehood.

With 3,500 residents, Sapulpa was billed as "the northern gateway to the fertile plains of the Creek Nation," where the water was pure and the climate ideal. Enterprising farmers could produce ample crops of cotton, corn, wheat, and peaches while watching their cattle, sheep, hogs, and poultry grow fat in this "land of plenty."

An idyllic depiction, to be sure, but it does give you a sense of how the Mvskoke people had adapted to life in a new place after a century of strife and upheaval.

* * *

Every Mvskoke knows about the Trail of Tears, the forced removal of southeastern Indians from their homelands to Indian Territory. Most historical accounts of this period focus on the injustice of the removal policy and the hardships of the journey, which killed around 3,500 Mvskokes.

I've often wondered about those who survived—some with little more than the clothes on their backs—and the challenge of starting from scratch in a new land.

The removal treaty of 1832 required the U.S. government to provide them with food and other basic necessities "for one year after their arrival at their new homes," barely enough time to settle in. They had to be completely self-sufficient after just one growing season, and if the crops failed or the livestock ran off, their options were very limited. Love's, Braum's, and SONIC had yet to set up shop in Mvskoke country.

Some of the plants and animals they found in this new territory were familiar from the old country. But others were undoubtedly novel, strange, and possibly dangerous.

It must have been an eye-opening experience for those Mvskokes who lived off the land. And in the nineteenth century, that included just about everyone.

* * *

The first treaty negotiated by Mvskoke leaders in Indian Territory was signed at Fort Gibson in 1833. It laid out boundaries for the new Creek Nation, situated between lands already claimed by the Choctaws and the Cherokees.

The Choctaw border followed the Canadian River, an effective barrier. But the Cherokee border was mostly a series of invisible straight lines running overland, and much of it remained unmarked for years.

Finally, in 1848, the U.S. government commissioned a crew of topographical engineers to survey the Creek-Cherokee boundary. They spent the summers of 1849 and 1850 measuring and marking the border, and both expeditions included S. W. Woodhouse, a young medical doctor with an interest in natural history. His journals and reports are among the earliest written accounts of agricultural practices in Indian Territory.

Setting out from Fort Gibson, Woodhouse was quickly impressed by the farms he visited. "The Indians here have as fine corn as I have ever seen before," he wrote just a month into the first summer. Many Mvskokes also tended orchards, and he happened upon a family cutting and drying some "very fine" peaches for their winter stores.

Near present-day Tulsa, the expedition was passed by a group of Indians whose horses were loaded down with buckeye root, which they were going to use for catching fish in the Verdigris River.

Woodhouse saw plenty of domesticated animals and wild game as well: grouse, mallards, turkeys, deer, and even buffalo. The Mvskoke people he met along the way were generous to a fault, repeatedly offering food, supplies, and hospitality to their visitors from the States.

At a farm near Chiaha tribal town, the lunch menu included cornbread, sweet potatoes, stewed peaches, salt pork, and "a drink made of hominy," probably sofkey. An afternoon stop at a Mvskoke homestead near present-day McClure Park in Tulsa yielded a refreshing snack of watermelon. The hosts of a funeral dinner served various meats, vegetables, breads, and desserts to more than three hundred guests, and Woodhouse returned to camp "having been much gratified with my visits."

Maybe it's not so surprising after all that, half a century later, a Sapulpa booster would praise the Creek Nation as a land of plenty. But if Mvskoke country was fertile, this was at least in part the harvest of Mvskoke hard work.

* * *

You can find more information about Mvskoke country, including an archive of previous columns, at http://mvskokecountry.wordpress.com/

I welcome your comments on anything I write, as well as your suggestions for things I should be writing about. You can reach me by e-mail at: treaty@illinois.edu

McCombs Family celebrates 96th annual reunion

Photo submitted

Pictured above is the McCombs Family who recently celebrated their 96th annual reunion at the Tuskegee Baptist Church.

by C. Kaye Drew
McCombs Family

MUSKOGEE — On July 4, 2009, over 80 descendents of the William and David McCombs family and friends of Tuskegee Baptist Church met for the 96th annual reunion.

There was a morning program that began with the singing of Creek and English hymns, all led by Millie Colbert. Special gifts were given to Vivian McCosar - oldest lady present; Paul McCombs - Maxey - oldest gentleman present; Mia Pope- youngest child; Dr. Bo Colbert - farthest distance.

Presentations also given were the McCombs tartan and cap pin from Scotland, photographs of William and Sallie McCombs, and enactment of a Creek legend based on Chuffie rabbit.

Geneva Colbert was honored for her many years of unselfishly cleaning up after the reunion feast. Afterward, arts and crafts and family T-shirts were available for purchase.

The programs were followed by lots of good food, Creek and English.

Haikey Chapel UMC to host 'Camp Edge' VBS

by Sandra Chisholm
Haikey Chapel UMC Secretary

TULSA — Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church will be hosting a Vacation Bible School Aug. 14-16. The theme of the VBS is Camp Edge. All children and adults are invited to attend. It will be held at Haikey Chapel UMC in Tulsa located at 8515 E. 101st in Tulsa.

Supper will begin at 5 p.m., followed by VBS programs at 6 p.m. On Saturday, Aug. 15 at 8 a.m., a continental breakfast will be served followed by programs which will last throughout the day. VBS will conclude the following Sunday at 3 p.m.

For more information, please contact Rev. July Tecumseh at (918) 681-6175.

Bear Family to host reunion Sun., Aug. 16, 2009

Media Release
Bear Family

SAPULPA — The family of Roley Bear will be hosting a family reunion on Aug. 16, 2009 at the Sapulpa Creek Elderly Nutrition Center located on the 500 block of East Dewey at 2 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information, please contact John or Charolotte Bear at (918) 224-4958.

And Still the Waters Run: *Hiawatha*

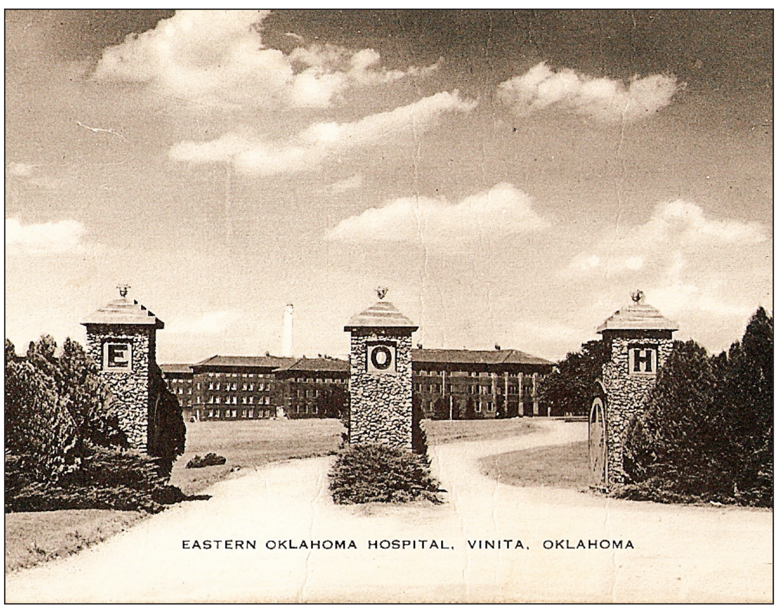


Photo courtesy of George Windes

Pictured above are Shead and Edna Freeman Newton with their family, circa 1938.

by George Windes
CMCA Historian

YORBA LINDA, Cali., — It was an evil place, a building where medicine and politics resulted in a poisonous mix. It was called Hiawatha Institution for Insane Indians. A result of pork barrel legislation, the city of Canton, S.D., had decided a hospital for Insane Indians would bring needed jobs to their state. It was approved in 1898, and opened its doors in 1904. Native people from Indian tribes across America were sent there, with loved ones unaware that the physical conditions were horrific.

Patients were shackled to beds and pipes. Often, their only insanity was in speaking their Native tongue. Several patients died each month and a hospital cemetery lists names with possible Creek connections, i.e., McIntosh, Brown, Marshall, Deer and Collins (among others). The patients were never sent home because a federal law decreed Natives who were institutionalized had to be sterilized before release.

The hospital staff didn't feel quite up to the task, so Native folks just vegetated. In 1933 the federal government investigated the hospital and found many patients had absolutely no signs of insanity. The place was quickly closed. Today only a little cemetery exists in the middle of a golf course. A memorial service is held once a year by the North Dakota tribes.

A story of deep sadness remains with my Muscogee Creek family, an epic dark tale of a wasted life. Josephine Freeman had come to Muscogee authorities to enroll ten children in 1890. Later, when the family was making its way by covered wagon to Checotah, 23 year-old Lloyd Freeman Jr., accidentally caused the death of his 10 year-old brother, Burdette Howell Freeman. Lloyd Junior was devastated by the event.

As time advanced he showed signs of severe guilt, instability and alcoholism. His father, Lloyd Senior, told Alex Posey (the famed Creek poet) in 1907 that Lloyd Jr., had been sent to a hospital for the insane. Posey was working for the Dawes Commission and had looked the family up to find out why Lloyd Jr. had not yet completed his final choice of allotment lands. His initial land request was near Hitchita town and had a Native church on it, probably Grave Creek Baptist Church. Lloyd Junior would spend his entire life in institutions, but was said to have been completely normal in his later years. By then hospital routine was his life. He would die at Vinita in 1952. His twin sister had decided to visit him one Saturday, only to learn he had died the day before and was being buried (no service) as she stood in the hospital lobby. She stopped the burial, so his loved ones could be told and thus have the chance to attend a scheduled funeral later.

In 2005, I began a search to find Lloyd Jr., (my grandpa's brother). I learned by accident of the Hiawatha Institution, from its mention on some Vinita correspondence. I wrote to the City of Canton, asking if old records existed and finally learned they had been sent to the National Archives in Fort Worth, Texas.

I searched an online Archival Research Catalog with no luck. Richard Procello, a fellow California Creek and fine researcher was going to visit the Fort Worth facility, so I sought his help. He called me from the archives to say the staff was absolutely certain they had no Hiawatha records. I thought of the full name of the awful place and asked (jokingly) for them to search under 'Insane Indians'. Record Group 75 appeared, w/ ARC Identifier 649145 and local Identifier, RRF-75M-19. Richard later brought back to me a thick file of priceless family documents, including a handwritten letter by my grandfather, inquiring after his brother's welfare. I wonder how many researchers had inquired before me and been told that nothing was there.

About six months ago I contacted the lead archivist at the National Archives. I lodged an official protest that the records of hundreds of Native people who had suffered in a government built folly were now listed (seventy-five years later) under Insane Indians.

I demanded and was told the database would be changed to add the complete name of the Hiawatha Institution. I checked again last week to find that absolutely no change has ever taken place. The archivist was again sympathetic, but explained it was not an important priority.

So Native peoples, if you are looking for Creeks, Navajos, Apaches (or citizens of any Indian tribe during the Hiawatha decades), please note you will find access by checking the ARC federal database under the title, Insane Indians. I've previously mentioned Alex Posey. Creeks will remember his fictional persona, Fus Fixico. Posey used him to explain Creek humor. I think Fus would laugh at my Hiawatha story. Sort of like his comic letter about Hotgun's friend having becoming a GOOD Indian ('the only good Indian is a dead Indian' analogy). It's funny, if it wasn't so sad. Our ancestors continue to be disrespected in a way that could be so easily corrected. Mvto Creeks for reading this.

George Windes is a direct descendant of William Weatherford (Red Eagle). His paternal grandfather, Joseph Leroy (Roy) Freeman, his eight siblings and mother, Josephine Freeman, were all original MCN enrollees. He has written a dozen manuscripts concerning his Native heritage and is Creek, Natchez (a long time part of the Creek Confederacy) and Cherokee.

Windes has been an active member of the California Muscogee Creek Association for nearly a decade and is currently serving on the Board as historian. He may be reached at: georgewindes@gmail.com.

LIFESTYLES

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Magdalene Ann Alexander

LAWRENCE, Kan., — Magdalene Ann Alexander, Mvskoke/Oglala graduated from Haskell Indian Nations University on May 8, 2009. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in American Indian Studies. She is employed full-time at American Indian Records Repository in Lenexa, Kan.

A reception was held in her honor in Winona Hall.

She is the daughter of Margaret Alexander.

She has one sibling, Andreios Alexander.

Grandparents are the late George "Toby" Alexander and Hattie Bruner Aleander.

Grandmother is Alvina Thunder Bull.

Her aunts are Abbie Larney, Martha Jimboy, Ester Pickup and Emma Perry. Her cousins are Konowa, Jolene, Denise, Marlena, Lauren, Antonio and Tyrone, family and friends attended her celebration.

She is of the Tiger Clan.

Coty Cane Cooper

MIDWEST CITY — Coty Cane Cooper has been promoted to Head Baseball Coach at Rose State College. He grew up in the Paden and Prague area where he played baseball and graduated from Prague High School. His senior year he lead his team to their first state play-off game.

He then went to college at Liberal Kan., where he met and married his wife, Heidi Knuteson. After receiving his Associate Degree, at Liberal Kan., he received a scholarship to play baseball for the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond. He played two years and finished his Bachelor's and Master's Degree there. He was then hired as Assistant Baseball Coach for Rose State College. He held his position for three years before his promotion to Head Coach.

He is the son of Glenn and Terry Cooper.

His grandparents are Coy and Wanda Shivers and the late Henry and the late Palmer Cooper and the late John Wesley and the late Audra Lee.

His great grandmother was the late Audra Samantha (Doyle) Lee. His great great grandfather, Wallace Dougan Doyle, was the first of the family to sign the Creek Indian roll in 1900.

Glenna DeVoy Cooper

GERMANY — 2nd Lt. Glenna Cooper is serving in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps as a Registered Nurse in unit - Alpha Company.

She is stationed at Landstuhl where she works at the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center Hospital. This hospital receives the wounded troops from Afghanistan and Iraq. She cares for many wounded troops and their families.

She has two children, Kianna and Chris Randall.

She is the daughter of Glenn and Terry Cooper.

She has four siblings, Raymond, Willie, Coty and John. Her great grandmother was the late Audra Samantha (Doyle) Lee. Her great great grandfather, the late Wallace Dougan Doyle, was the first of the family to sign the Creek Indian roll in 1900.

Eddie Mitchel Fish

OKLAHOMA CITY — Eddie Mitchel Fish graduated from the 59th Academy of the Oklahoma Highway Patrol on June 26, 2009.

He is the son of Cindy Fish and Rita and Eddie R. Fish, Jr.

His grandfather is Eddie R. Fish Sr.

His great grandfather was the late Frasizer Fish and his great great grandfather was the late Little Fish.

Christine Jones

OKMULGEE — Christine Jones, a 6th grader at Okmulgee Public Schools, the daughter of Tammy and Travis Jones, would like to say thanks for the support she has received from Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Special thanks to James Jennings for preparing the legislation and thank you to all the Council for passing the legislation allowing her to attend the Junior National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, D.C., June the 13-18, 2009.

While there she attended leadership classes during the morning sessions of the day, and after lunch they were able site-see. A few of the places were, Capital Hill, Lincoln Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Korean War Memorial, Harpers Ferry, the Hard Rock Cafe, and a sleep-over at the Maryland Science Center. She states, "my favorite time was spent at the Lincoln Memorial and Hard Rock Cafe!"

She got to see from the distance the White House which is behind her in the picture. Thanks again for all the help from Muscogee (Creek) Nation for supporting our Creek youth! Christine states, "Thanks for a lifetime memory!" She had a wonderful time, and learned lots in a short period of time!

Lydia Ruth Martinez

FRIONA, Texas, — Lydia Ruth Martinez received her GED on May 18, 2009. She will further her education at the college in Clonis, N.M. She will be attending the two-year program for her nursing career.

She is the daughter of Ester Pickup and David Wesley.

She has two siblings; Denise Aragon and Micco Wesley.

Her grandparents are Toby and Hattie Alexander and Leon and Emma Wesley.

Her great grandparent is Robertson Bruner.

She is of the Tiger Clan.

Sunecke Kendale Tarpalechee

TULSA — Sunecke Kendale Tarpalechee played the catcher for the Union Astros this spring baseball season. The team took third place out of 10 teams that participated in the Union Baseball Little League. Their season record was 10 - 4.

He is the son of Sonya and Samuel Norris.

His grandmother is Tina Terpalechee.

He has one sibling; Lucy Norris.

He is of the Bird Clan.

He attends Rosa Parks Elementary and attends Victory Christian.

BIRTHS

Gerald Thunder Micco Deer

TULSA — Gerald Thunder Micco Deer was born March 20, at Southcrest Hospital.

He weighted seven pounds and 15.8 ounces and was 20 inches in length.

He is the son of Sarah Jean Micco and Gerald Deer.

He has four siblings, Chandlynn, Trystin, Losanna and Tayah.

Maternal grandparents are Teresa Bible Hamilton and the late Hempsey Wayne Micco.

Paternal grandparents are Teresa G. Deer and Grayling Johnson.

Maternal great grandparents are Norma Jean Bible and the late Burtis Wilmot Bible and Sarah Winney.

Paternal great grandparents Linda Leyva and the late Eugene and Myrtle Johnson.

Kyra Isabel Jennings

TULSA — Kyra Isabel Jennings was born June 20, at St. Francis Hospital.

She is the daughter of Kirby and Martha Jennings.

She has one sibling, Isaac Jennings.

Grandparents are Rutino and Petra Isabel Basquez and Teresa Jennings and Bobby Jennings.

Great grandparents are the late Pearline Day and Henry and Elizabeth Tarpalechee.

She is of the Bird Clan.

BIRTHDAYS

Mariah "Jah" Danielle Brown

MORRIS — Mariah Danielle Brown celebrated her 17th birthday with a Spiderman themed party.

She celebrated with friends and family during Green Corn at Tallahasee Wvkokaye.

She is the daughter of Franklin and Lydia Brown.

She has two siblings, Elise Brown and Lynsie Wilson.

Grandparents are the late Felix Brown, Sr. and Florence Brown and Sam Proctor and Pauline (Starr) Proctor.

She is of the Beaver Clan and a member of the Tallahasee, Duck Creek and Redbird Smith Ceremonial Grounds.

Dayne Allen Billie

CLEWISTON, Fla., — Dayne Allen Billie celebrated his forth birthday on June 15, with a Monster Jam themed party at Dave and Busters.

He is the son of Allen Mark and Mary Billie.

He has one sibling, Tana Bear-Osceola.

Grandparents are the late Susanna Bear and Lon Bear and Thomas and Jane Billie.

He attends Ahfachkee Day School.

He is of the Wind Clan.

Tayah Renee Deer

TULSA — Tayah Renee Deer celebrated her second birthday on March 29.

She is the daughter of Sarah Jean Micco and Gerald Deer.

She has four siblings, Chandlynn, Trystin, Losanna and Thunder.

Maternal grandparents are Teresa Bible Hamilton and the late Hempsey Wayne Micco.

Paternal grandparents are Teresa G. Deer and Grayling Johnson.

Maternal great grandparents are Norma Jean Bible and the late Burtis Wilmot Bible and Sarah Winney.

Paternal great grandparents Linda Leyva and the late Eugene and Myrtle Johnson.

Iliana Renova

TULSA — Iliana Renova celebrated her 12th birthday on Aug. 1, with a pool party at Big Splash with her friends and family.

She is the daughter of Susan Alexander and David Renova.

She has two siblings, Andrew and Tamra.

Her grandparents are Paulette Alexander and David Alexander and Elizabeth Renova and Manuel Renova.

Her great grandparents are Linda Alexander and Andy Alexander.

She is of the Bear Clan.

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

What a summer, and it's not over yet. It will go down as the summer Michael Jackson died, the summer of high unemployment and a shifting economic system. It will go down as one of the hottest. The heat is what's on everyone's mind. I knew Oklahoma was going to be hot as I made my way there with a vanload of grandchildren for Green Corn. It was hot in New Mexico when we started the journey, and even hotter in Oklahoma. I bought an outdoor thermometer and took it to the ceremonial grounds to see exactly how hot the temperature ran. In the sun, the temperature read 120 degrees! In the shade it dropped to 112. Tonight, a few weeks later, I listened to the news of record low temperatures in the Midwest. These high and low running temperatures are Earth's fever and chills. We are Earth. We're in an unstable condition. We are headed for some rough ecological times.

It's not every summer we make it back for Green Corn. Last year I couldn't afford the plane fare. This year I returned to New Mexico, and because the journey is over land, I can drive. Early Friday morning after arriving, two of my granddaughters and I headed over to the grounds to set up. The oldest is Haleigh, just turned sixteen-years-old. She listens deep, beyond the frequency of chatter. Desiray Kierra is a fresh and fierce thirteen-year-old. There's so much to tell them, so much they need to know as they begin their journey as women in a world of immense changes.

We left from my sister's house in Glenpool and took the back route. This meant turning off the Beeline east at the Beggs exit, then taking a road south, some miles on the other side of Beggs. I trust that I will once again recognize the turn and the zigzag out to the ceremonial grounds.

Several turtles crossed the road. I angled to make sure one who is in the path passes safely beneath the van. We braked for a butterfly. Within a few miles we veered into the opposite lane past the body of a coyote who had been hit by a car. Buzzards fearless with hunger lifted when we passed, then they quickly landed and continued their feast. “They're doing their job”, I told my granddaughters. “We all have our tasks in this world. These days, we humans have been more trouble than help with our trash and amusements. “

I told them to make note of signs. We can forecast with clouds, shapes, by watching the animals and how they are moving about the earth. We began looking for the road south. I don't recall the name of the road because I know it when I see it. Yet, as we continued driving west the landscape began looking unfamiliar. We were surprised when a bird dove close and glanced off the front of the car, and relieved when it flew away unhurt. Then immediately ahead of us, to the right, we saw a crow surrounded by three sparrows. They berated and dove at the crow. I pointed this out to the girls and I turned the van around. Within a few miles I saw the road south we'd missed. The usual landmark of building and signs had been razed and the corner was now a flat field.

We continued toward the ceremonial grounds on that old road that goes from great grandparents, to grandparents to mother, daughter and to granddaughters, with our ribbon dance dresses, cooking and camping utensils piled up in the back. “This is where we come from”, I told them, “and where we are going. If you pay attention to the signs, you will always find the way.”

Puyallup Tribe visits MCN

• Washington tribe recognizes support for ICW

Photograph submitted by Tony Issacs

Pictured above are

by Angel Ellis
MNN Ellis

OKMULGEE —The Puyallup Tribe of Washington recently visited the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in order to show their appreciation for the support they received from MCN during a three-year long Indian Child Welfare case. Representatives from the Puyallup tribe brought culturally relevant gifts as well as a proclamation from Chairman of the Puyallup Nation Council which honored and revered the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for it's support which included a resolution.

The two tribes remained in contact throughout an Indian Child Welfare case in which a Puyallup child was placed in foster care with a non-native family. During the case the Puyallup Tribe faced the state of Oklahoma in the court system while trying to hold the state to the rights and responsibilities of the Indian Child Welfare Act. The ICWA is a federal law that seeks to keep American Indian children within American Indian families. Congress passed the law in 1978 in response to the alarmingly high number of Indian children being removed from their homes by both public and private agencies.

When a Puyallup child in Wagnor Co. was placed in foster care with a non native family, the Puyallup people found on-going support from officials in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. David Z. Bean of the Puyallup Tribal Council stated “This was an important case in Indian Country. If we had lost, it would have been a major blow to the Indian Child Welfare Act.”

Bean as well as other representatives of the Puyallup tribe met at the chief's office with Speaker of the National Council, Thomas Yahola, Second Speaker, Steve Bruner, and Mekko, Bobby Yargee of the Alabama Quasarte Tribal Ground.

> *“This was an important case in Indian Country. If we had lost, it would have been a major blow to the Indian Child Welfare Act.”*
> - David Z. Bean, Puyallup Tribal Council

Screen Print Division: a commercial success

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — Since the addition of screen printing to the communications department the department has experienced growth. In addition to the investment of equipment staff have attended specialized training to help achieve a professional quality product and generate revenue.

One of the adherent factors to the success of new product is the dedicated staff. David Pascale and support staff are expanding their skills and serving customers screen printing needs. Working these manual presses which have the capability of creating a product with as many as four colors is combined with the innovative skills of on staff designers in order to accommodate even the most selective of customers.

The range of products has moved beyond just T-shirts. In addition to the tees which come in a variety of color and sizes up to 4XL, customers can also order ball caps, and sweatshirts. T-shirts are available in a 50/50 cotton/poly blend. Sweatshirts are a 50/50 cotton and poly fleece hoodie.

MNN/*Jason Salsman*

Pictured above is Screen Printing Assistant Rylan Hicks working on an order in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Screen Print Division which is now offering commercial printing for T-shirts, sweats and more.

> *“We have always had the talent and software and now that we have the machinery, we can offer a quality product to citizens and the commercial industry.”*
> - Lucas Taylor, Communications Manager

One of the more popular of the recent products has been the printed tee. The department has reached out and expanded it's commercial base by servicing churches, organizations and even little league. Customers can find some of the lowest prices for silk screen prints in the area with tees starting as low as 6.65 per shirt.

Orders for screen printing can be created within the communications department. Interested parties place their orders with the graphic designers. From there the design team takes the individuals design or talks with them about their ideas and creates their masterpiece. It is then sent to the printing room where the design is made into special screens. Depending on the number of colors in the design several screens may be made. The printers then take the screens and attach them to the press seen above. In a repetitive order the product is printed by applying ink through the special screens and drying the applications.

Lucas Taylor, Communications Manager said, “We have always had the talent with the designing staff, we even had the capability to create the designs with our software and now that we have the machinery we can offer affordable quality products to tribal citizens and the commercial industry. Having our customer base expand commercially is a big vote of confidence in this department.”

Those interested in placing an order or who are in need of pricing information can contact the Communications department at (918) 732-7643.

OBITUARIES

VICTOR "AJ" BERRYHILL JR.

OKEMAH —Victor Allen "AJ" Berryhill, Jr., 24, died July 29, 2009 in Okemah. He was born December 12, 1984 in Ada to Victor Allen and Gina Ann (LeClair) Berryhill, Sr. He lived in Okemah his whole life, after attending school there.

AJ loved to cook and try other recipes he considered himself the cook-out king. AJ was a very good artist, was asked numerous times to draw something for someone and was highly praised for a good job, he won his first art contest at the age of four.

Leisure time at home was playing with his nieces and nephews and just laughing and having a good time with family. AJ enjoyed playing basketball and helping kids at the park improve their game. AJ had future plans to return to school and become a basketball coach.

He is survived by his parents Victor Allen Sr., and Gina Ann Berryhill of Okemah, two brothers, Jutto and Lut Ka Berryhill, sisters Delaina Berryhill-Christopher, Kol Epah Berryhill and Rachel Berryhill, Grandmother Marie Berryhill and Mabel LeClair of Ponca City. He was preceded in death by Albert Berry hill, Jr. and Jesse LeClaire.

The funeral service was held August 3, 2009 at the Springfield Methodist Church with Revs. David Little and Billy Coon officiating. Pallbearers for AJ were Jeremy Baker, Jarett Givens, Tafv Berryhill, E-Cho Butcher, Tony Garcia, and Jerry McVeigh. Honorary Pallbearers are Robert Fixico, Thomas Fixico, Vincent Coon, John Christer, J.C. Morgan, and James Smith. Burial was at the Johnson Family Cemetery in rural Okemah. All arrangements by Schumacher Funeral Home of Okemah.

SARA BETH BOONE

ANADARKO — Services for Sara Beth (Sloan) Boone, 56, of Anadarko were held July 7, 2009 at the Virginia Avenue Baptist Church with former pastor Roger Barnett officiating.

Mrs. Boone was born April 22, 1953 in McAlester to Albert and Ella (Butler) Sloan and passed from this life on Thursday, July 2, 2009 at Grady Memorial Hospital in Chickasha.

She and Lloyd Douglas Boone were married in Muskogee on November 27, 1982. He preceded her in death. She was also preceded in death by her parents.

Mrs. Boone grew up in Oktaha and graduated from Sequoyah High School in Tahlequah. She attended Haskell Indian Jr. College in Lawrence, Kan., for two years and also attended Connors State College in Warner, and USAO in Chickasha.

She worked for the U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission in Dallas for three years, and the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Office for Civil Rights in Dallas, for two years.

She went to work for the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Muskogee, and transfered to Anadarko in the early 1980s. She was an accounting technician in the Office of Trust Funds Management at the Southern Plains Regional Office.

She had worked for the U.S. government for 35 years when she became ill in January.

She was a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Virginia Avenue Baptist Church, where she taught Sunday School for fourth, fifth, and sixth grades.

She loved to read, sew, take pictures, cook and was a great fan of OU football and NBA basketball.

Survivors include her daughter, LaDonna Sloan and her fiancee', Robert Brake, and one granddaughter, Ashlyn Sloan, and Robert's son, Marcus Brake, all of Anadarko; one brother, John Sloan and his wife, Pat, of Eufaula; two sisters, Phyllis Yahola and her husband, Thomas, of Wetumka, and Pat Sloan of Oktaha; two nephews, Tony Henry of Oktaha and Phillip Sloan of Muskogee; one niece, Danielle Yahola of Wetumka, other relatives, a "special sister," Wynetta Posey and many loving friends and coworkers.

Burial took place at Anadarko Memorial Lane Cemetery.

WANDA FRAZER

OWASSO — Wanda Frazer, born Feb. 28, 1913 in Yeager, Okla., died July 5, 2009 in Owasso, Okla. After graduation from Holdenville High School, she met her future husband, James H. Frazer.

They were married June 13, 1937. He was a manager of Safeway and they were transferred to Tulsa in 1950 where she made her home since. She was half Creek Indian and was a member of Garnett Road Baptist Church.

She is survived by her children, James K. Frazer and wife Kathy of Disney, OK. John M. Frazer and wife Ilene of Roscoe, Ill., and Suzanne Barker of Irvine, Cali., nine grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her husband, James K. Frazer and her parents, Monta and Louisa (Kernal) Fream. Funeral Services were held 10 a.m., Friday, July 10, 2009 at Floral Haven Funeral Home Chapel in Broken Arrow, Okla.

MAXEY FISH

WETUMKA — Maxey Fish was born on October 19, 1942 to John Brown and Edna Mae Fish in Wetumka. Maxey was called home by the Lord on July 11, 2009.

Maxey was raised in the Wetumka area around Salt Creek Baptist and Sand Creek Baptist Churches. Maxey attended schools at Wetumka, Chilocco Indian School, and Jones Academy in Hartshorne. Maxey also lived in Los Angeles for several years before returning to Wetumka in the late 70s.

Maxey worked as a ranch hand in his younger years for Freeland Standford and Jim Shoulders who considered Maxey a friend. Maxey was a cement mason retiring in the mid 90s.

Maxey was baptized into membership of the Sand Creek Baptist Church at a young age by Rev. Simon Severs. Maxey served Sand Creek as a Social Committee Member, grounds keeper and head gravedigger. Maxey was always willing to do manual labor for the church and MSW Association, helping wherever he could. Maxey served as a driver for a mission trip to Brighton, Florida and would accompany Rev. Dan Phillips in his mission work here in Oklahoma.

Maxey was involved with the Wetumka Indian Community and served as grounds keeper for many years until his health failed this year.

He also served as a Governing Committee Member for the Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town for the past four years.

Maxey loved watching all sports but was one of OU football's biggest fans.

Maxey had no children of his own but loved all his nephews and nieces and was called Uncle by all of them. He was even called "Uncle" by those who were not related to him. He taught his nephews and nieces how to clean and butcher hogs, squirrel and deer hunting. Maxey was an avid fisherman and made sure his nephews and nieces knew how to fish, noodle, set and run trot lines, clean and fry fish. He supplied Sand Creek Baptist Church with fish for many of their fish fries. Maxey is preceded in death by his parents John and Edna; brothers Kenneth Fish, Alex "Chief" Fish, and Andrew "Baby Lonnie" Fish; sisters Mary Jane Buckley, Winey Mae "Palokso" Davis, Kathryn "Gas" Fish; nephews Jeffery Fish, Ledon Buckley, Jr., and Michael Wayne Fish.

Maxey is survived by brother Rev. J.B. Fish, Jr.; sisters Virginia Whitetree and Diana Moppin, all of Wetumka. Austin Hicks who he loved as a son, as well as 25 nephews and nieces and 81 great nephews and nieces.

BILLY GENE BUCKNER

OKEMAH — Billy Gene "Cvncate" Buckner, 70, former resident of Okmulgee and resident of Okemah, died July 14, 2009 at Colonial Park Nursing Home in Okemah.

He was born May 11, 1939 in Okfuskee County to Annie Sampson and Monday Buckner. He was preceded in death by his parents and his beloved grandmother Lucy Lewis Bear.

Survivors include his sister Mary E. Buckner; and a host of nephews, nieces and cousins.

Funeral services were held at McClendon-Winters Funeral Home July 17 with Rev. Fred Jones officiating. Burial followed at the Bear, Yahola-Jones Cemetery in Okfuskee.

Pallbearers were Tim Good Voice, Kenneth Good Voice II, Patrick Jones, Brian Jones, Randy Minter, Loper "Rock" Yahola Bear Jones, Tim J. Good Voice, Jeremy Good Voice, Kenneth Good Voice III, Christian Good Voice, Justin Jones, and Jared Jones. Honorary Pallbearers will be Fred Jones, Jimmie Jones, Walter "Sen" Jones, Loper Jones, Joseph Berryhill, Amos Rabbit, and Don Minter.

16th Annual Trail Of Tears Motorcycle Ride
Monday 21 Sept. 09 • 1200 (12:00 pm)
Riders please assemble at the
MCN VETERANS BUILDING PARKING LOT

Motorcycle Riders call Ken Davis to give t-shirt sizes at (918) 732-7739.
All Muscogee (Creek) Motorcycle Riders including (Non Veteran Muscogee Citizen Motorcycle Riders)
will be given a customized Veterans Event t-shirt for participating in this ride.
Any questions call Ken Davis at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7739.
T-Shirts will be handed out prior to departure.

Annual All-Indian State Fast-Pitch Tournaments

• Players flock to Okmulgee for national competition

Media Release
MCN Tourism & Recreation

OKMULGEE — This year, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will host one of the most prestigious Native American sporting events in the country—the 57th Annual Men's and Women's All Indian State Fast Pitch Tournament, presented by the Oklahoma Native American Sports Association.

International American Indian & First Nations softball teams will converge on the Claude Cox Omniplex and the City of Okmulgee Ballpark, August 14th-16th in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. The All-Indian Sate Slow Pitch Tournament will occur on the following weekend, August 21st-23rd at the same locations. Both tournament weekends will begin at 6 p.m. Friday night.

Traditionally, the Tournament occurred in Oklahoma City and just last year was moved to Chickasha. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation having recently remodeled the softball fields at the Claude Cox Omniplex is very proud to be chosen as this year's location for the Annual Tournament that has been dubbed the tournament of tournaments.

The three-day event has become a celebration for American Indians. Old friends play catch up while new friendships and acquaintances are forged. American Indian Tribes and First Nations from Canada unite to participate in one of the greatest past times among Native Americans. Some will win and some will lose, but all will walk away with new memories of another tournament and one of the largest gatherings of Indigenous People in North America.

MNN/*Darren DeLaune*

The Claude Cox Omniplex softball fields will again host some of the nation's most talented and fierce softball players at the upcoming 57th annual Men's and Women's All-Indian State Fast-Pitch Tournament sponsored by the Oklahoma Native American Sports Association.

Deadline for entry into the Fast Pitch Tournament is August 8th and August 10th for the Slow Pitch Tournament. The entry fee for each tournament is $250. For more information on entry, contact CeCe Floyd at (405)943-7935 or Tony Hudson at (405)408-8922.

Admission is $2.00 per day for persons between the ages of 11 and 59. All others are free of charge. Parking is also free.

No solicitation or sales of any kind without prior approval from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Tourism & Recreation.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is a tribal government located in east central Oklahoma. The Nation's boundary includes eleven counties: Creek, Hughes (Tukvpvtce), Mayes, McIntosh, Muskogee, Okfuskee, Okmulgee, Rogers, Seminole, Tulsa and Wagoner.

For more information regarding this article, contact the Office of Tourism & Recreation.

Phone: (918) 732-7992 or (800) 482-1979

E-mail: tourism@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

CREEK NATION Casino MUSCOGEE

3420 W. Peak Boulevard Muskogee, OK 74401 918.683.1825 www.creeknationcasino.net

SENIOR CITIZENS SPECIAL
MONDAYS 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Complimentary Lunch, $10 Match Play & $25 Diamond in the Rough Hot Seat Drawings. (55 & OLDER)

BIRTHDAY BASH
TUESDAYS 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM
$20 Free Play. Birthday Cake, and a free bingo pack if your birthday is this month!

SLOT TOURNAMENTS
TUESDAYS 2:00 PM $10 Entry Fee
Each player will receive $30 in non-cashable tournament credits. The top players in each round will advance to the final round.

DIAMOND DOLLS / GENTS
WEDNESDAYS / THURSDAYS 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Wednesdays are Ladies' Night, Thursdays are Men's Night. $10 Match Play. $25 Diamond in the Rough Hot Seat Drawings.

DIAMOND CLUB SATURDAY
SATURDAYS 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM
$10 Match Play. $25 Diamond in the Rough Hot Seat Drawings.

DOUBLE DIAMONDS 2X
SUNDAYS NOON - 4:00 PM
Diamond Club members will earn Double points on Sundays.

ADVERTISEMENT

3RD ANNUAL MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CITIZENS' DIABETES AWARENESS SUMMIT

August 20-21, 2009

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Early Registration Preferred Deadline: July 27, 2009

Send Forms to Kara Lee, Fax: (918) 752-0140 Mail to: P.O. Box 400, Okmulgee, OK 74447

For Information Contact Terrie Anderson at (918) 237-1417 Or Gloria Moore at (918) 756-3334, Ext. 245, (800) 782-8291

Registration Forms at MCN Diabetes Clinic Program Offices and Community Centers

Attendance preference is for MCN Citizens, limited seating available for spouses MCN citizens and other American Indian Community Members.

SUMMIT IS FREE

Contact Election Board to update mailing addresses

Media Release
Election Board

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board is preparing for the 2009 National Council Election. The following registered voters need to contact the Election Board to up-date their address. The Election Board cannot change your address without your consent. If any of the citizens listed below are deceased, a family member needs to contact our office in order for the Election Board to remove the deceased from our list. If you do not contact the Election Board office, you will be placed on an invalid list and will have to re-register in order to vote. Contact the Election Board at (918) 732-7631, (918) 732-7684, 1-800-482-1979 or by fax at (918) 756-2637.

Abbott, Jerry Eugene
Acheson, Marilyn R.
Acrea(Ollie), Dora M
Adair, Harold Dean
Adamek, Christopher
Adams (Rinehart), Paula
Adams III,Willie S.
Adams, Mark Stefan
Adams, Nancy M.
Adams, Neal V.
Addison, Reanna Verene
Adolph, Gregory L.
Adolph, Jeffery E.
Agent (Post), Samantha
Aguilar (White), Rachel
Ahtone,(Marshall) Eloise
Akers, Donald Gene
Akers, Thomas Fredrick
Akins (Lout), Cynthia M.
Alexander Jr., Alex
Alexander Sr., John
Alexander, Debra K.
Alexander, George Samuel
Alexander, James Alan
Alexander, Lewis E.
Alexander, Robert Lee
Alexander, Summer Brook
Alford, Junious Lee
Allen (Tiger), Melissa
Allen, Bluford Warren
Allen, Carl Ray
Allen, Kenneth Edwin
Allen, Shereen Lanier
Alley, Tommy Joe
Allison, Robert Ray
Alsup, Velma Edna
Alterman, Peggy Darlene
Anderson, Elizabeth N.
Anderson, Erica Breanne
Anderson, Joseph Warren
Anderson, Karen Lynn
Anderson, Kathryn Ann
Anderson, Michael Jon
Anderson, Nathan Edwin
Anderson, Robert C.
Anderson, Robin Lee
Anderson, Solomon Knox
Anderson, Steven David
Anderson, Susan Denise
Andy, William
Anglen, Michael W.
Anglen, Tracy Mark
Ansiel, Billy Joe
Ansiel, Charles Albert
Ansiel, Earnest Wayne
Ansiel, Floyd Christopher
Anspaw, Carrie Willis
Anthony, Deresa Lynn
Antwine, Sandra Lanel
Apple, James C.
Apple, Mildred Louise
Applegate, Pamela G.
Aquino Jr., Ricardo M.
Aquino, Domingo A.
Arbuckle, Carol Ann
Archer, Byron Lee
Archer, Jerry Dale
Archer, Leroy Webster
Archer, Melissa Jane
Archer, Randall Mark
Archer, Roni Sue
Arledge, Margoletta
Arnett(Sullins), Tenia
Arnold, Sabrina A.
Arnold, Sonja A.
Arpoika, Bobby Islo
Arredondo, Cheryl
Arzola(Keller), Sherri
Asbury, Lillian Jo
Ashmore, Yvette M.
Asimenu, Janeth Kaye
Atkins (Miller), Kathy
Atkins Jr.,William Noval
Atkins, Stacie Diane
Atkins, William Norvel
Atkins-Clerc, Ambra
Aubrey, Herbert F.
Audrain(Wood),Gertrud
Ault (Warren), Cheri
Ault, Richard Brian
Aultman, Danny
Avants, Helen Belle
Baccus Jr., Clarence
Baccus Jr., Irving W.
Baccus, Nathan L.
Badgett, Alice Renee
Bailey(Harrell)Betty Lou
Bailey, Martha Louise
Bailey, Robin Kimberly
Bailey, Trevor Lee
Baker Jr., Robert
Baker, Alice Deann
Baker, Chris Ladawn
Baker, Ronald Butler
Baker, William Travis
Baldridge, Paul A.
Baldridge, Steven J.
Bales, Mel Ray
Ball, Casey Dawn
Ballard, Ametra Delaine
Banks (Bird), Carol
Banks, Elmer Ray
Banks, Lori Lea
Banowetz, Margaret
Barber, Kelly Kay
Barlow Jr., Charles A.
Barnes, Barney Lee
Barnes, Donna Kay
Barnett Jr., Charles B.
Barnett, Amanda Gayle
Barnett, Bennie
Barnett, Brandon E.
Barnett, Christopher
Barnett, David Osie
Barnett, David Ronald
Barnett, Emmanuel C.
Barnett, Gail Jackson
Barnett, George Casper
Barnett, Henry Ray
Barnett, Sandra Carole
Barnett, William Bradley
Barnett. Cody Brian
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Barrett, Rhett L.
Barron, Delorse Ann
Barry, Richard Louis
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Barton (Kelley), Brenda
Barton, Andrew Robin
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Baughn, Bruce Gene
Baughn, Juanita Janett
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Bear, Clara Christine
Bear, Dale Lucus
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Bear, Jamison O.
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Beaver, Dane Kardell
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Beaver, Katrina Lee
Beaver, Lisa Dawn
Beaver, Shelton O.
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Bell (Kelley), Mary
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Benedict, Jessica E.
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Berryhill(Whitlow)Shirley
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Berryhill, Walter Sammie
Berryhill, Woodrow
Bertholf, Ruth
Beshear, David Wayne
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Best, Ernest Gerald
Best, John Hogan
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Bigler, Michael David
Bigpond, Bruce Elwood
Bigpond, Cody Cotetan
Bigpond,Emmanuel Louis
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Billings, Robert W.
Billups, Arlene
Billy, Franklin T.
Binam, Krista Marie
Bingham, Tammy Lea
Bird, James Edward
Birdcreek, Cravens
Birdcreek, Donna Sue
Birdcreek, Richard J.
Birdsong, Thomas Patrick
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Blackwell, Douglas A.
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Blalock, Richard Allen
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Blankenship, Donald D.
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Blankenship, Ricky W.
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Boneau, Kathryn J.
Bonner Jr., Sterling
Bonner, Beatrice E.
Bonner, Gary
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Boone(Sloan), Sara B.
Boone, Travis Ray
Booth, Goldean Marie
Booth, Larry Joe
Booth, Sara Jane
Border, Peggy Pauline
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Brown, David D.
Brown, Donise Lynette
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Brown, Johnny Mack
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Buckley, Wadie Leon
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Bucktrot, Robyn Lindsay
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Burgess, Nathaniel R.
Burgess, Nathaniel V.
Burgess, Phelix Alex
Burgess, Randal Yale
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Byrd, Gnetta F.
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Caesar,Alphonso
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Case, Jack
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Castro, Larry D.
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Chalakee, Carman M.
Chalakee, Mary Elizabeth
Chalakee, Theron L.
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Checotah, Orvilon
Checotah, Roman
Checotah, Wilbertine
Checote, Johnnie L.
Checote, Sky C.
Cheek, Darin W.
Cheek, Dawn A.
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Childress(Tiger)Lucy
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Clark, Bessie Adella
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Clary(Berryhill)Ruth
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Clayton, Ronald Jay
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Clements (Brown), Lois
Clemmer, Elizabeth J.
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Clifton, Debra Kay
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Cline, Shirley A.
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Cloud (Holuby), Leah
Cloud, Clinton Lew
Cloud, Lucy Mae
Cloud, Mark David
Cloud, Mark Stanley
Cloud, Rodney E.
Clubb, Alice Annabell
Coachman, Agnes
Coachman, David James
Coachman, Joseph Don
Coachman, Kenneth H.
Cobb, Youvon L.
Coble, Annetta J.
Coburn Jr., Charles David
Cocharan, Brenda K.
Cockrum, Kathleen Lucy
Cody (Rose), Jenny
Coffin (Brooks), Lolita
Coffman, Karen Faye
Coker Jr., Thomas E.
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Cole Jr., James Murray
Cole, Aaron Leon
Cole, Bobbie Lynnette Cole, Jack Lee
Cole, Theresa Leigh
Coleman(Henry) Leona
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Coleman, Jacquelyn F.
Coleman, Manie Mae
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Collins, Phyllis Maudean
Combs, Beulah
Combs, Marcus L.
Combs, Melvin L.
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Combs, Susan Hope
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Conley, Billy Ray
Conn, Minnie R.
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Cook, Joyce Marie
Cook, Mark Alan
Cook, Scot David
Coon Jr., Arthur
Coon, Shawnna Renea
Cooper, Cranford W.
Cooper, John T.
Cooper, Lyndel Lin
Cooper, Mary N.
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Copeland, Lisa L.
Copland, Michael R.
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Cornfeld(Nolan),Thelma
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Couch, Jack Cody
Coulter(Baccus)Kathy.
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Cruse, Carrie E.
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Cully, Eugene
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Curry, Ostennia M.
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Davis Jr., Oneil
Davis Jr., willie
Davis(McNac)Mary
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Davis, Billy
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Davis, Dina Michell
Davis, Don Juan
Davis, Estelen
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Davis, Michele J.
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Day, Janie Lucille
Day, Ora Mae
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Deaver, Sarah Jean
Deer, Cindy Lee
Deer, Sara Elizabeth
Deere, Christopher C.
Deere, Dana Michelle
Deere, Kerry Ann
Deere, Mord H.
Deere, Samuel Ray Demry, Lacy Deon
Denney, Melissa A.
Dennis, Beverly, Sue
Deo, Steven Thomas
Deroin, Debra Carol
Determan, Freda
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Dickerson, Crawford K.
Dickey (Fleet), Alice
Dickson (Jones)Velva
Diehl, Daniel Scott
Digranes(Autry)Jo
Dillard, Ramona I.
Dinwiddie II, Granger
Dixon, Dru Sherman
Dobson, Leah Alicia
Dobson, Mikel Lee
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Doss, Reginald Keith
Doss, Samson Wayne
Doss, Trae Jame
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Dowling, Stephanie Mae
Downing, Jacqueline
Downum, Vester Von
Doyle, Annalis
Doyle, Jeffrey
Doyle, Leo Donald
Dozier, Juanita
Dozier, Rebecca Dee
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Drew, Fredrick L.
Drew, Joseph Daniel
Drew, Yvonne A.
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Drotos, Jennifer A.
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Drywater, Jason L.
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Duncan, Jay Daniel
Duncan, Leah Desiree
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Dunford Jr., Phillip D.
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Dunker, Sherry L.
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Dunn, Mark Eldon
Dunning, Betty L.
Dunson, Gary
Dunson, Marty Craig
Durfee, Kelly L.
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Durossette,Robert D.
Duvall, Darin L.
Duvall, Matthew G.
Dyer, Mollie Ann
Eads, Arron P.
Eads, Ira Vernon
Eakes, Vincent R.
Earnest, Tammy D.
Easley, Evelyn A.
Easley, Evelyn A.
Eason, Cynthia A.
Eastep, Ina Marie
Eastep, Tommy L.
Ebahotubbi, Michelle D.
Edminsten, Maurice
Edmiston, Nelly Sue
Edwards Jr., Richard
Edwards, Delbert Donald
Edwards, Elizabeth
Edwards, Kenneth Lee
Edwards, Louise Edwards
Edwards, Marion L.
Eldridge, Sherry E.
Elliott(Yahola)Sallye
Ellis, Debra Ann
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Emerson, Shirley F.
Emerson, Stephen Glen

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Ennis, Patricia E.
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Epperley, Linda A.
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Estle, Kathryn H.
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Farnsworth, Kathy S.
Feagan (Jensen), Anna
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Felix, Richard Allan
Feliz (Pittman), Helen
Feliz, Richard D.
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Fiarris, Jeanne A.
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Fields, James
Fields, James A.
Fields, Samuel A.
File, Wanda Lou
Finch, Jerry Allan
Fish Jr,Mitchell F.
Fish Jr., Charlie Curtis
Fish Jr., Louis M.
Fish, Cindy L.
Fish, Dale Frazier
Fish, Jennifer Lynn
Fish, Terrel Darnell
Fisher Jr., Lawrence
Fisher, Cecil C.
Fisher, Holly Ann
Fisher, Jeffery H.
Fisher, Jonathon S.
Fisher, Kenneth S.
Fisher, Lige S.
Fisher, Wynona J.
Fitch (Tiger), Barbara
Fixico (Harjo), Kepsey
Fixico Jr.,Charles M.
Fixico Sr., Charles M.
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Fixico, (Synder), Donna
Fixico, Anthony G.
Fixico, Antonia
Fixico, Della Louise
Fixico, Elmer
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Fixico, Quinton L.
Fixico, Robert Lee
Fixico, Taylor
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Fletcher, Jay Ogden
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Floyd, Phillip D.
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Foley, Katrina Renee
Foley, Mark A.
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Forbes, Carolyn L.
Ford(Pittman), Lillian
Foreman, Katherine
Foreman, Konya S.
Forester, Robert S.
Forsythe, Ellen Kae
Foster Jr., Charles
Foster, Brian S.
Foster, Charles A.
Foster, David Ray
Foster, Dawn Ranee
Foster, Deanne M.
Foster, John Edward
Fowler, Courtney M.
Foy, Travis E.
Frailey, Marcus G.
Franchek, Cynthia A.
Francis, Lisa Marie
Francis, Mark
Francis, Victor T.
Franklin, Doby S.
Fraser, Diane M.
Frazer, Clayton M.
Frazier, Betty R.
Frazier, Debra K.
Frazier, Gregory Lee
Fream, Beecher L.
Fream, Edward L.
Fream, Kim K.
Fream, Wendy L.
Freeman II, Jack
Freeman, Jack H.
Freeman, Leola
Freeman, Ronald G.
Freeman, Scott Emerson
Freeman, Vernon Bernard
Freeman, William E.
French, Alex G.
French, Gara Lynn
Frogge, Loy R.
Fry, Nona Pearl
Frye II, Ed Porter
Frye, Fannie
Frye, Johnny
Fryer, Janet Kay
Fulwider, David V.
Funchess, Edward
Furr, Claudette
Gable Jr., James C.
Gable, Mattie L.
Gable, Susie A.
Gaither, William J.
Gallagher, Darla J.
Gallagher, David G.
Gallagher, Katherine Rose
Gamble, Robert L.
Garcia, Deborah V.
Garner, Sharon M.
Garrett(Goode)Bee E.
Garrett(Lewis), Eula
Garris(Davis), Pamela
Garrison, Ruth Ann
Gaston, Oliver D.
Gaston, Walter Prentis
Gatzman, Tanya Lea
Gay, Eva Ruth
Gee, Carmen K.
George, Addie F.
George, Roy Reed
George, Stephen R.
Geralis, Marsha L.
Geren, Katherine C.
Geroge, Nora
Gibson, Albert A.
Gibson, Pamela K.
Gibson, Sherrie L.
Gideon, Michael G.
Gideon, Peggy Lee
Gilbert, Elvin H.
Gilbreth, Rosie
Giles, Deana Paulette
Gilliam, Constance K.
Gillispie(Daniel) Barbara
Gillman, Lonnie Michael
Gilmore, Rhayma K.
Girod, Gerald S.
Gisler(Oliver) Dee
Givens Jr., Charles
Givens, Anglelica Kyrie
Givens, Daniel James
Goke, Christopher James
Givens, Devan R.
Givens, Donald R.
Givens, Melody Misty
Gladden, Ida Louise
Gladden, Jason M.
Glasco (Martin), Tonya
Goddard(East), Mary
Godwin Jr., Bedford
Goff, Sandra Kay
Goke, Linda Elaine
Golden, Joshua E.
Golden, Shawn A.
Golden, Sonja Louise
Golden, Treasa Jo
Goode, Bethel R.
Goodman, Brenda J.
Goodman, Jacky Richard
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Gordon, Glynn Allen
Gordon, John H.
Gossett, Carolyn J.
Goudeau, Adrianne Rene
Goudeau, Juriden
Gouge Jr., David A.
Gouge, Melinda J.
Gouge, Peggy A.
Grace, Monica M.
Graham, Brian C.
Graham, Kimberly S.
Grahman(Bishop)Barbara
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Grant, Patrick Gerard
Gray, Carrie Christine
Gray, Imogene
Gray, Walter Eugene
Gray, Walter L.
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Grayson, Cary C.
Grayson, Doris A.
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Green, Kevin Allen
Green. Victor A.
Greenwood, Heather
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Gregory, Hunter T.
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Haddox, Marilyn
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Haikey, Nathan Paul
Hain, Richard T.
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Hale, David Robert
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Hale, Robert L.
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Hall, Mary Ruth
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Hallford, Lawrence
Hallum, Terry D.
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Hammar, Jeffrey David
Hammar, Michael Gene
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Hanshaw, Frederick J.
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Hare, Karie A.
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Harjo, Albert Lee
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Harjo, Brandon M.
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Harjo, Donna S.
Harjo, Douglas
Harjo, Elmira
Harjo, Francis
Harjo, Geoffory J.
Harjo, Jacob
Harjo, Joe
Harjo, Johnny W.
Harjo, Joseph L.
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Harjo, Lannie Pauline
Harjo, Lawrence Dean
Harjo, Mary A.
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Harjo, Michael Lee
Harjo, Mikka Francene
Harjo, Monroe J.
Harjo, Morris
Harjo, Naomi R.
Harjo, Nelsey B.
Harjo, Rhonda D.
Harjo, Robbin S.
Harjo, Roy Dean
Harjo, Ted Wayne
Harjo, Wilson S.
Harjochee, Frankie K.
Harjochee, Michael A.
Harmon Sr., Benjamin
Harmon, Sammy D.
Harmon, Shona R.
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Harper, Casey R.
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Harper, James Stephen
Harper, Terry Wayne
Harper, Wanda S.
Harris (Russell), Leva
Harris, Patricia Sue
Harris, Wilbert E.
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Harrison, Joel Proch
Harrison, Misty Dawn
Harry, Mary Ann
Hart, Gregory E.
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Hartung, Jeffrey B.
Harvey (Haynes)Millie
Harvey, Allen Ray
Harvey, Alpha M.
Harvey, Delphia M
Harvey, Lydia D.
Harwell, Gilbert P.
Hatcher, Leslie K.
Hatcher, Ozelle
Haulstine, Susan A.
Hawkins Jr., Barney
Hawkins, Donald P.
Hawkins, Gary E.
Hawkins, Leta S.
Hayes, David H.
Hayes, Lisa A.
Hayhurst, Randell E.
Haynes, Vernon H.
Heater(Ross)Peggy
Heavener, Sharee Kay
Heddings, Norma Lena
Heinbach, Susan
Henderson, William V.
Hendrix, Janice Louise
Henneha, Laura B.
Henry, Connie R.
Henry, Eugene R.
Henry, Johnie W.
Henry, Stephen G.
Herbert, Jenea L.
Hernandez, Liza J.
Hernandez,Carlos R.
Herring, Juliana L.
Herrod, Camille A.
Herrod, Frances A.
Herrod, Jonathan
Herrod, Lanny C.
Herrod, Louise
Herrod, Rhonda Jean
Herrod, Richard L.
Herron, Michael W.
Hester, Robert Joe
Hick Jr.,Norman W.
Hicks Jr., Richard A.
Hicks Sr., Henry
Hicks(Wright), Shelia
Hicks, Bobby Kenneth
Hicks, Brandon Joe
Hicks, Charley
Hicks, Eric Allen
Hicks, Gary D.
Hicks, Michael K.
Hightower, Marylou
Hilbern, Carol Janelle
Hill (Joy), Joann
Hill, Clark E.
Hill, Clinton Eugene
Hill, Dave
Hill, Dora M.
Hill, Levi
Hill, Stevenson J.
Hill, Vanessa J.
Hill, Wayland J.
Hillburn, Jeffrey S.
Hines Jr., Leo W.
Hinkle, Katie Belle
Hixson (Butler), Karen
Hoard, Stacie Renae
Hobbs (Scantlen), Leann
Hobia, Kelly S.
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Hodge Jr., Clyde E.
Hodge, Billy Gene
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Hodge, Jerry W.
Hodge, Joshua Lee
Hodge, Kelly Denise
Hodge, Larry D.
Hodges, Frances Jean
Hoffman, Judy Irene
Hoffman, Loretta F.
Hoffpauir, Robert T.
Holahta, Louis
Holdridge, Brandon S.
Holladay, Robert D.
Holland, Marjorie R.
Hollestelle, James D.
Holleyman, Henry H.
Holleyman, Henry M,
Holleyman, Larry H.
Holloway, Gwen M.
Holmes, Rebecca
Holmes, Shirley A.
Holt(Dice), Hazel Marie
Holt, Audrey Fay
Homeratha, Effie
Hood, Barry Keith
Hood, Rachel N.
Hope, Beaden Franklin
Hope, Kathy Jo.
Hope, Pamela K.
Hopgood, Adrianne M.
Hopper (Webb), Carla
Horlin, Madiline
Horn, Adarin A.
Horton, Artie R.
Horton, Charlotte Eliza
Horton, Heather D.
House, Brian Lee
Hovell, Diana Pearl
Howard, Leland B.
Howell, Larry Joe
Hudgens, Wendy L.
Hueston, Jamie D.
Hughes, Bobby Lee
Hughes, James R.
Hughes, Keven Duane
Hughes, William S.
Huie, Rhonda Ruth
Hull, Eva Beatrice
Hull, William Loren
Hulsey, Harry J.
Hummingbird, Gwen Faye
Humphrey, Lois
Hunt, Alan Girad
Hunt, David E.
Hunt, Frances Diana
Hunt, James Charles
Hunt, James Crawford
Hunt, Scott A.
Hunt, Thomas Roy
Hunt, William C.
Hunter Jr., Frank J.
Hunter, John H.
Hunter, Karen J.
Hunter-Law, Michele D.
Hurd, Gwendolyn A.
Hurd, Terry Joe
Hurt, Alan Girard
Hurt,Aaron Christopher
Hutson, Myrna J.
Hyde (Ross), Anne
Hyde, Richard R.
Ickes (Tiger), Shonna
Inderlied, Karen E.
Indian, Evangelina A.
Ingram(Grayson)Alice
Ingram, Dana L.
Ingram, Thomas C.
Ingram, Warren T.
Irish(Nelson)Linda
Irons, Naomi
Ishmael, Carl Casper
Ishmael, Joshua Lee
Ishmael, Maxine
Jack Jr., Everett L.
Jack, Everett Lee
Jackson Jr,Clifford O.
Jackson Jr., Phillip
Jackson, Antonio
Jackson, Betty Sue
Jackson, Dave
Jackson, Della Marie
Jackson, Geneva
Jackson, Heather M.
Jackson, Jerry L.
Jackson, Jimmie W.
Jackson, Kelley R.
Jackson, Kenneth D.
Jackson, Lora Ann
Jackson, Phillip D.
Jackson, Rhonda Carole
Jackson, Robert W.
Jackson, Shannon R.
Jackson, Shelly L.
Jackson, Shirley Ann
Jackson, Timothy A.
Jacobs, Jacqueline
Jacobs, John A.
Jacobs, Linda
Jacobs, Owen
Jacobs, William R.
Jacobs, Willie
Jaggars (Golden), Dawn
James (Cole), Cynthia
James Jr., Orville E.
James Jr., Randy D.
James, Diane Lynnette
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James, Ricardo C.
James, Robert E.
James, William D.
Jenkins, William L.
Jennings, Kirby Lee
Jihad, Roshell
Jimboy, Jay M.
Jimboy, Marcy
Jimboy, Richard Allen
Jimboy, Tonya R.
John, David Loren
John, Mary
Johnson Jr., Cy Osceola
Johnson Jr., Samuel
Johnson Sr., Tony
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Johnson, Gary
Johnson, Gregory W.
Johnson, Joann
Johnson, Joseph
Johnson, Kenneth
Johnson, Kimberly A.
Johnson, Larry Dean
Johnson, Leslie A.
Johnson, Lucinda
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Johnson, Michael K.
Johnson, Thomas L.
Johnson, Twana J.
Johnston(Jones)Tina
Jones Jr., Adam
Jones, Aaron Keith
Jones Jr., Jesse A.
Jones(Sutton)Oquilla
Jones, Alysia M.
Jones, Bobby Ray
Jones, Bonnie L.
Jones, Charles A.
Jones, Christopher C.
Jones, Edward D.
Jones, Jack David
Jones, Jeremiah K.
Jones, Juanita M.
Jones, Kathryn W.
Jones, Kelli J.
Jones, Kenneth R.
Jones, Patrick Wayne
Jones, Phoebe A.
Jones, Shane O.
Jones, Timothy Adam
Jones, William A.
Jordan (Roberts), Lillian
Jordan, Clifford L.
Jordan, Jennifer
Joseph, Danny L.
Joseph, Matthew A.
Joyner(Wood)Polly
Joyner, Martin C.
July, Randy L.
July, Tressia Lee
Jumper(Wind)Loretta M.
Kamp, Robert A.
Kamp, Ted M.
Kaseca (Squire), Nancy
Kassim (Hale), Audie J.
Katcv, Freeman M.
Keaough, Evelyn J.
Keele, Valace M.
Keeler, Anita F.
Keeler, Edgar Lee
Keene Jr., Kenneth
Keene, Darryl L.
Keepers, Melisa L.
Keifer, Johnnie Mae
Keith, Gregory Allen
Keith, Sandra Kay
Kellehan, Carla D.
Kellehan, Paula J.
Kelley(Haggard),Flora
Kelley, Loretta Ilene
Kellogg, Ronda Rae
Kelly (Pitman), Dina
Kelly, Bill Dean
Kelly, Martha Elizabeth
Kelly, Melba Ilene
Kelough, Jimmy David
Kemp, Reuben, Thomas
Kenney, Sandra M.
Kennon, Gary Brian
Kernal, Harry
Kerns, Charlotte A.
Kerr, Barre D.
Kerr, Marc R.
Ketchum, Gladys M.
Key, Tammy Joyce
Keys, Alicia Marie
Keys, Bella Mae
Kezer, Bryan David
Kimble, Travis L.
King IV, James F.
King Jr., Wilson
King, Cecil Dewayne
King, Dale Edward
King, Gerald Lee
King, Jackson
King, Jeffrey J.
King, Jessie Lucile
King, Letha Lee
King, Michael Eugene
King, Michael J.
King, Nadine
King, Tara A.
King-Simmons,Carolyn
Kinne, Christena S.
Kinsey, Rachel
Kirby, James Dean
Kirkpatrick, Nancy S.
Klein, Casandra L.
Knapper, Ella Louise
Knight, Charles Wallace
Knight, Jackson R.
Knights (Beaver), Carol
Knotts (Allen), Juanita
Knox, Clyde D.
Knox, David Lee
Knox, Michael Wayne
Korgan, Jaime D.
Koshiway, Marilyn
Kuykendall, Malinda L.
La Deaux, Gwendolyn
Lacey, Starr D.
Lackey, Billy J.
Ladd, Robert Louis
Ladd, Trisha D.
Lakey, Amanda Kay
Laman, Juanita G.
Lamar, Malissie
Land, Dinah K.
Landers, Gary Don
Landis II, William E.
Landis, Doris Jean
Lane, Constance Jean
Lane, Lila Ann
Lane, Paula J.
Langston, Arthemus J.
Langston, Carolyn Sue
Lanham, Larry L.
Lanier, Lisa Michelle
Lansford, Kevin B.
Lara(Fixico)Wynona
Larew, Carol S.
Latchaw, Raelyn R.
Lavalley, Thomas L.
Leach, Loretta S.
Leader, Cynthia L.
Leader-Harlay, Brigita
Leamon, Betty Sue
Leard, Dale Lee
Leard, Lane M.
Leath(Atkinson)Mary
Lee, Andrew D.
Lee, Ethel Ernestine
Lee, James W.
Lee, Ricky J.
Lee, Wilfred E.
Lees, Brian Duane
Legrand, Lahoma L.
Lemon, Brian M.
Lemons, Virgina L.
Lena, Linda Lou
Lena, Louis
Lena, Mark D.
Lester, Betty Jane
Levecque, Patricia A.
Levy, David B.
Lewis, Bryan L.
Lewis, James R.
Lewis, Jerry
Lewis, Jessie W.
Lewis, Jimmy David
Lewis, Lizzie
Lewis, Richard
Lewis, Tina Jo
Lewis, William Russell
Lidyard, Pamela J.
Lile(Henson)Janet R.
Lindsey, Alice Mae
Lindsey, Freeland Arley
Lipp (Gilbert), Serena
Little(Watt)Donna G.
Little, Debbie Kay
Little, Jerry Joe
Little, Kendall J.
Littleaxe, Shelley Sue
Littlehead, Nora
Littlehead, William B.
Littlesun, Nowa
Livingston, Jessica L.
Logan, Jemmie M.
Lollman, Cheri Joann
London, Kyli Leeann
Loney, Timothy J.
Long, Alicia Ann
Long, Bobbie J.
Long, Dana Eugene
Long, Darlene J.
Long, Lisa Ann
Long, Louis William
Long, Penny A.
Lonney, Stephanie Lynn
Looney, Mattie Semhoya
Lovelace, Charlene C.
Lovelady, Ruby Lee
Loven, Linda Kay
Lovett, Donna Luann
Lowe, Jerry R.
Lowe, Pauline
Lowell, Gloria M
Lowery, Ruby T.
Loyd, Barry Wendell
Loyd, Bobby David
Lozier, Deforest Abe
Lozier, Karen Dee
Lozier, Shawn Lynn
Lucas, Robert Jesse
Luke, Mary Ruth
Lukens, Trina June
Luster, Melissa Ann
Luster, Ray Clinton
Lutz, Marla Jenee
Lyon, Phillip Earl
Madrid, Lori A.
Magee, Ernest Neely
Magee, Linvial John
Mahee Jr., Otis
Mahlen, Peggy L.
Mahoney, Asil Pete
Mahoney, Maggie Marie
Mahurin(Ford)Beverly
Manaia(Burton)Linda
Manion, Casey Sean
Mann, Terri Lee
Mann,(Bruner)Martha
Mannon, Alice H.
Mapes, Billy Jean
Marble, Ivan Franklin
Marcum, Connie Lee
Markland, Hannah
Marr, Shelly Kay
Marris(Hawkins)Louise
Marshall, George Marvin
Marshall, Jim Boy
Marshall, Leona Mae
Marshall, Paul
Marshall, Sean L.
Marshall, Semary A
Martin Jr., Robert C.
Martin(Evans)Clista
Martin(Farris)Jane
Martin, Billye Rene
Martin, Elizabeth
Martin, Kimberley L.
Martin, Luwana K
Martin, Rex Allen
Martin, Rosa Mary
Maschal, Callie Jane
Mason, Donna Lea
Mason, Edward James
Mason, Herman A.
Mason, Nancy Sue

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Massey, Dorotha K.
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Masters, Patricia Ann
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Matheson, Katrina Dawn
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Matinez, Angela Diane
Matthews, Virginia I.
Maxey, Mark D.
Maxwell, Mario Dewayne
May, Bekki Jean
Mayer, Jeania A.
Mayfield, Rosezella
Mays, Paula Irlene
Maytubby, Ervina Mae
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McAlester, Lanita Kaye
McAtee, Margaret
McBribe, Emma Jean
McBride, Marcella
McCabe, Terry
McCampell, Shelia M.
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McCarty, Kevin Drew
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McCloskey, Barbara
McClung III, Charles
McClung, James Wesley
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McCosar, Vivian
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McCutcheon, Daniel
McCutcheon, David
McCutcheon, Samuel
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McElroy, Marlena K
McElroy, Timothy W.
McFarland, James C.
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McGeeley, Timothy A.
McGehee, Marsha K.
McGhee, Elizabeth
McGilbra, James L.
McGinnis, Sammy A.
McGinnis, Shannon D.
McGirt, Wisey Jean
McGuire, Annette Starr
McHenry Jr., Onis
McHenry, Lewis T.
McIntosh, Bennie Willie
McIntosh, Charles Emet
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McIntosh, Delois
McIntosh, Dennis Wayne
McIntosh, Ned E.
McIntosh, Tyola E.
McIntosh, Vanessa Lynne
McKay, Eddie Lee
McKay, Lela Elma
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McLaurin, Velma J.
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McMahan, Joyce Kay
McMahan, Sheryl Lynn
McNack Jr., Alex
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McNevins, Richard
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Meeker, Carolyn Ruth
Meely Randella D
Meitler, Jacquie Louann
Melton, Tina L.
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Merkey, Gayla Denise
Merrell Jr., John H.
Merrell, Jennifer L
Meyer, Rodney Wayne
Middleton Jr., James E.
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Miller Jr, Coydell
Miller Jr., Raymond L.
Miller Jr., Thomas Otto
Miller, Claude E.
Miller, Howard Eugene
Miller, Jerry Denise
Miller, Jimmy Lee
Miller, Robert Chance
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Mills, Deannna Lee
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Minter, George Arthur
Minter, Marilyn
Minter, Nancy
Mirabal, Charleen Kay
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Mitchell, Luann
Mitchell, Minnie Ruth
Mitchell, Verna Lee
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Moffer Sr., Eddie J.
Moffer, Karen Jean
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Monroe, James Richard
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Montgomery, Christine L.
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Monts, Melissa Lorine
Moore(Anderson)Anna
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Moore, Bobby Jean
Moore, Damon D.
Moore, Deana S.
Moore, James E.
Moore, Jimmie D.
Moore, Kelley R.
Moore, Leah Marie
Moore, Lori Denise
Moore, Robert Jack
Moore, Scott A.
Moore, Steven Allen
Moore, William Beaver
Moore, William R.
Moran, John Robert
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Morgan Margaret Z.
Morgan, Barbara J.
Morgan, Frances Ann
Morrison, Jack E.
Morton IV, Charles M.
Morton, Lori Kay
Moses, Cynthia Regina
Moses, Wanda Jean
Moss(Smith)Edith
Moss, Maudie B.
Mount, Kimberly Gayle
Mount, Linda Fay
Mount, Melissa Kaye
Muirhead, Emma C.
Muller(Elsey)Pauline
Mulliniks, Judy Darlene
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Murdock, Barbara Ann
Murphy, Adzel
Murphy, Aubrey Gene
Murphy, Phillip
Murray, Carol Sue
Murray, Robert Wayne
Musick, Meridith A.
Musick, William Patrick
Mustari, Carmen Joseph
Myers, Betty Ann
Myers, Gay Lynn
Myers, Rex Curtis
Nail, Tonya Lee
Najera, Vickie L.
Nappi, Jana Lynn
Narcho(McIntosh)Ella
Narcomey, Anthony
Narcomey, Bernice
Narcomey, Blance
Narcomey, Georgie Ann
Nations, Angela T.
Navarro, Lisa Marie
Neal, James Boyd
Nease, Viola Marie
Nededog, Carol Lynn
Neely, Cleo Lucille
Nelson, Robert Glen
Nester(Gray)Ramona
Newberry, Larry F.
Newberry, Randell Royce
Newport, Margie M.
Nichols, David B,
Nichols, David R.
Nichols, Margaret Ann
Nickell Jr., Maynard
Nienhuis, Virginia Anne
Nimsey, Brook Reed
Nipper, Bonita Kay
Nokushutche, Pzce
Noon Jr., Nathan
Noon, Joyce K.
Noon, Steven
Norbry, Linda S.
Nordlund, Judith R.
Noriega, Manuel
Norris, Florence K.
Northcutt, Eldon Lee
Nowlen, Patricia Ann
Nunn, Alena Michelle
O'Bar, Arreta Dart
O'Connor, Kellie Lynn
O'Donnell, Shonda K.
O'Field, Jackie
O'Hern Nora
O'Mahony, Robin
Obregon, Vicki L.
Ochoa, Katherine
Odlham, Rockey M.
Odom Jr., Ray Vance
Odom, Ruth Ann
Oldham, Stoney W.
Oliver, Jacky Clenton
Oliver, Larry Leon
Oliver,Mary C.
Olsen, Carrie Lei
Olsen, Jerome A.
Opperman, Caroyln L.
Orcutt, Charles L
Orcutt, Homer A.
Orcutt, Roy Dean
Orcutt, William Adolphus
Orr, Sally Shannon
Orr, Thomas Sidney
Osterhoudt, Marilyn
Overstreet, Deborah
Owens, Danny Floyd
Pace, Frances Lee
Pace, Robert E.
Painter, Kellie Rae
Palmer(Burris)Jo
Palmer, Kimberly
Panoske, Lou Alice
Panoskey, Willie
Parker, Carolyn Gayle
Parker, David G.
Parker, Jacob C.
Parker, Jessica Arlene
Parnosky, Kevin W.
Parris, Alan Bruce
Parris, Michael E.
Partridge, A.D.
Paschal, Edna B.
Pass, Amanda Lynn
Pass, Marion Lee
Passah, Betty Jean
Patterson, Acie Cloud
Payne(Young)Lauren
Pearce, Charlotte A
Pearson, Mary Elizabeth
Pearson, Rickey Don
Pease, Ronnie A.
Peck, Gary Don
Peck, Judith Ann
Pedigo, Tracie A.
Peeurifoy, Audrey Juanita
Pelts, Deborah
Pemberton, Orvil W.
Pemberton, Sally A.
Pena, Anthony T.
Pender, Esther L.
Pendleton, David
Perkins, James N.
Perkins, Jason Robert
Perkins, Lucy M.
Perkins, Ruth K.
Perry, Emma Jayne
Perry, James Cline
Perry, Louise L.
Perry, Woodrow Wilson
Perryman Jr., Henry Clay
Perryman Jr., Phillip
Perryman, Jason Lee
Perryman, Lyle Arden
Perryman, Paul Kevin
Peterson, Shelley D.
Peterson, Stacey Dale
Peurifoy,(Posey),Audrey
Peyton(Tiger)Elouise
Phillips Jr., Joe E.
Phillips, Anna C.
Phillips, Matthew
Phillips, Teresa L.
Pickard(Smith)Yvonne
Pickering, Timothy
Pickering, Victoria June
Pidgeon, Tina Marie
Pilcher, Helaina R.
Pinney Jr., Dale Martin
Pipkins, Kimberly E.
Pitman, Wilson Sampson
Pitre, Stella Louise
Pittman Jr., Bennie
Pittman Jr., Johnny L.
Pittman Jr., Walter L.
Pittman, Eddie J.
Pittman, Jay W.
Pittman, Johnny L.
Pittman, Lehman G.
Pittman, Michael G.
Pittman, Michael J.
Pittman, Paul Trammell
Pittman, Tommy D.
Plevel, Steven E.
Poindexter, Tonya D.
Pool, Helen Mae
Pope(Scott)Maria
Porter, Freeling Alex
Poulter, Shirley K.
Pounds, Dennis
Powell, Danny
Powell, Sandy
Powers, Carolyn S.
Prater, Juanita Daisy
Prentice, Shaunna M.
Prevett, Dale Alan
Price, Monte Lee
Pridemore, Bonnie Lee
Prince, Josephine
Prince, Lula M.
Pringle, Kelli Lynn
Proctor(Harjo)Bernice
Proctor, Benny Ray
Proctor, Fannie L.
Proctor, Franklin
Proctor, James Frederic
Proctor, Jarrod
Proctor, Jonas Lee
Proctor, Lewis N.
Proctor, Stephanie L.
Provost, Inez Melinda
Pullen, Cathy Cheri
Purdin, Rusty Allen
Quapaw, Terry Lee
Quick Jr., William
Quigley, Zelma M
Quinones, Raymond
Radike, Edward Jay
Radike, James K.
Ragsdale, Lillian
Raines, Mitzi L.
Rains, Melissa A.
Rakestraw, Barbara
Rakestraw, Beatrice
Ralston, Alan William
Rame, Joetta Gail
Ramirez(Bear)Rachel
Ramsey, Mildredge
Ramsey, Treca Ann
Randal, Letha Dean
Randall, Rodney F.
Randall, Rodney M.
Randolph, Jan Lynn
Ratajczyk, Pamela
Ray, Alecia Gail
Ray, Patricia E.
Ray, Shirley Irene
Rayon, Della Mae
Red Eagle, Cheryl A
Red Elk, Frances E.
Redeker, Cathy Ann
Reed Jr., Frank M.
Reed, Charles William
Reed, Sharon Elaine
Reed, Dortha
Reed, Timothy Alfred
Reeder, Deborah A
Reel, Donna Shierie
Rehling, Melinda J.
Reins, Donette Ann
Rensch, Edward Craig
Revis, Annella Marie
Reyes, Randell
Rhyne(Hayes)Elloise
Rhynes, Lisa Ann
Rich, Whitney L.
Richards, Claude M.
Richards, Ruby Dale
Richardson, Erma L.
Richardson, James Davis
Richardson, Misty D.
Richardson, Valerie K.
Richardson, Victor L.
Ridenhour,Linda Sue
Ridgway, Isla M.
Ridley(Neal)Loretta
Riggle, Ella Ruth
Riley, James Glen
Riley, Richard Earl
Rinehart, Richard C.
Rinehart, Ronald T.
Rinehart, Russell F.
Rippee, Robin Lee
Risenhoover, Shirley
Roach, Alice Louise
Roach, Damon B.
Roach, Kevin Ward
Robbins, Tochee M.
Roberts Jr., James C.
Roberts, Cynthia L.
Roberts, Donald Gene
Roberts, Elizabeth
Roberts, Iva Lynn
Roberts, Margaret Ellen
Roberts, May
Roberts, Merna L.
Roberts, Richard J.
Roberts, Sandra Ann
Robey-McVay, Regina
Robinson, Amy C.
Robinson, Emma J.
Robinson, Orick H.
Robinson, Rosalious
Robison Jr, Thomas
Robison, Amos G.
Robison, Joshua Randall
Robison, Kenneth C.
Rogers Jr., Norman Leo
Rogers, Lillie Leona
Roley, Abbie Elaine
Rometo, Faith P.
Romig, Douglas D.
Roobinson, Jimmy Lee
Rooks, Brenda Carol
Rooks, Ellis Bobby
Rosborough, Debra Lynn
Rose Jr.,Dayton M.
Rose, Roger P.
Ross, Charlotte K.
Ross, Eric Dale
Ross, Robert Eugene
Rowe, Christine M.
Rowland, Ima Jean
Rumsey, Carlos
Rumsey, Monty Cole
Rumsey, Nathan
Rumsey, Rocky R.
Russell Bernon Dee
Russell, Amos
Russell, Charley L.
Russell, Erica M.
Russell, Floyd A.
Russie, Mary Helen
Ryal, Wiley Hatkee
Sack, Curtis Eugene
Sala(Chisholm)Marie
Sala, Galen D.
Sales(McAfee)Emma
Saline Jr., Stevin J.
Sample, Lena Mae
Samuels, Terri Lynn
Sanders, Annette Renea
Sanders, Elves Dwain
Sanders, James Lee
Sanders, Nathan
Sanders, Neva Authula L.
Sanders, Philip W.
Sanders, Robin Patrick
Sandlin, Danny G.
Sands, Rickey Lee
Sands, Robert Lemley
Sanford, Audie Ray
Sanford, Tressa L.
Sanger, David F.
Sappington, Sherry
Sapulpa, Scott Omiya
Sarracino, Leah Margaret
Schanks, Billy L. W.
Schanks, Judy Ann
Schanks, Shirlene Gail
Schave, Carmela Sue
Schmidt, David Bruce
Schmidt, Jeannene
Schooley, Mildred Clare
Schreiner, Rhoda D.
Schroeder, Juanita M.
Schupman Jr.,Edwin
Schupman, Marguerite
Schwartz, Roger B.
Scott Jr., Willmott C.
Scott, Barbara M.
Scott, Brummett D.
Scott, Gerald D.
Scott, Jacquline Jae
Scott, Jim
Scott, Joe Mack
Scott, Kenneth Scotty
Scott, Michael J.
Scott, Nancy June
Scott, Paul Sanford
Scott, Reggy Alan
Scott, Roby Patricia
Scott, Ronald Dean
Scott, Samuel Buck
Scott, Samuel N.
Scott, Sarah Alice
Scroginnis Jr., Richard
Seals, Monroe Joves
Seawright, John M.
Seawright, William E.
Seiler, Cynthia M
Seitz, Betty Ann
Seitz, Robert J.
Self, Brett Nelson
Self, Dan John
Self, Jimmy Russell
Self, Michael D.
Self, Ruben Delbert
Self, Ruben Kevin
Settle, Lisa Anne
Severs, Christine E.
Shampm Ruth Lorene
Shankles, Janet Lee
Shankles, Lee Ann
Shannon, Leonard Ralph
Sharp, Alvin Willard
Sharp, Andrew Jason
Sharp, Connie Lynn
Sharp, Donald W.
Sharp, Geneva Virginia
Sharp, Jim
Shaw, Mary M.
Shawnego, Bennie J
Shawnego, John R.
Sheldon, Colleen J.
Shell, Joyce Elain
Sheppard, Betty June
Sheridan, Dovie Lue
Shields, Suzanne E.
Shinogee, Edward S.
Shipley, Gracie
Shirley, Laura Kay
Shobe, Nancy Jo
Shope, Wanda Louise
Short, Gerri Lynn
Showman, Thomas Ryan
Shuffield, Michael E.
Sides, Clinton P.
Simmons, Robert C.
Simon, Lahoma Janette
Simonds, Patricia A.
Simpson Jr., Edward
Simpson, Charles D.
Simpson, William A.
Skaggs, Jerry Kim
Slayden, Leola M.
Sloan, Ladonna K.
Smalley, Gerald Dewayne
Smith Jr., Donald D.
Smith(Chester)Wanda
Smith(Dewoody)Terri
Smith(Golden)Terina
Smith, Bonnie R.
Smith, Brent Willis
Smith, Cheryl Lynn
Smith, Clayton Allen
Smith, Cozetta
Smith, Curtis
Smith, David Dale
Smith, Dorothy B.
Smith, Douglas W.
Smith, Eula Mildred
Smith, Jo Lynn
Smith, Johnnie R.
Smith, Johnson
Smith, Laura Sharon
Smith, Leslie Manowa
Smith, Linda Lee
Smith, Louise Mania
Smith, Maxine
Smith, Melinda J.
Smith, Melinda Suzanne
Smith, Myra Lorelei
Smith, Natasha J.
Smith, Rashie C.
Smith, Sherry Lynn
Smith, Tammy Lou
Smith, Terina Jean
Smith, Thomas Keith
Smithee, Derek R.
Smithee, Kirk Renee
Smock, John Campbell
Smoot, Aimee Christin
Smoot, Jerry Doyle
Smoot, Mary K.
Snell, Billie
Snell, Gene
Snelling, Judy Ann
Snyder, Lydia Gale
Snyder, Shelly Lynn
Sonnamaker, John V.
Sorensen, Harold R.
Southerland Jr., Ebbin
Sowell, David Buck
Spain, Jerry Wayne
Spain, Julia June
Spain, Michelle L.
Spear, Alta Lee
Spear, Kevan Luke
Speer, Julie Virginia
Spencer, Laura Ruth
Sprading, Steven S.
Springer, Florence M.
Springer, Kyle Benson
Sprinkle, Linda D.
Stacy, Florence Ann
Stacy, Willian Berl
Stafford, Robin L.
Stanke, Donald E,
Stanley, Fred Smith
Stanley, Jewell R.
Stapp, Clinton Gene
Starr, Douglas
Starr, Erick Wayne
Starr, Jimmie
Starr, Michael D.
Starr, Raymond R.
Stefanek, Kenneth T.
Steger, Shelley D.
Stephens Jr., Robert D.
Stephens, Charlene N.
Stephens, John Matthew
Stephens, Lena Mae
Stephens, Roy Lee
Stephens, Theresa Gail
Stephenson, Randolph
Stevens, Louise Marie
Steward(Moore),Debora
Stewart, Laura E.
Stewart, Robert F.
Stidham, Susan L.
Stillwell, Fannie
Stoebner, Terry E.
Stomski, Terry
Stone, Jerry Leon
Stuckey Jr., Charles
Sugar Jr., Christopher
Sullivan, Polly E.
Sulphur, Frederick M.
Summers, Frederic C.
Summers, Sarah E.
Sunday, Billy Monroe
Sunny, Walter Eugene
Supernaw, Roberta J
Sutton, Ronnie C.
Sutton, Terry Lee
Sutton, Tina Merle
Switzer(Helton), Juanita J.
Switzer, Brian Wade
Syfert, Dolores J.
Tabor(Tinney)Nancy
Talamsy, Ladena Ruth
Talley(Billie)Loretta
Tarkington, Marilyn
Tarkington, Tammy
Taryole, Lydia
Taryole, Prince S.
Tate, Diana Lynn
Taylor(Cole), Nellie
Taylor(Haikey)Connie
Taylor, Albert
Taylor, Christina A.
Taylor, Debra Marie
Taylor, Ethel May
Taylor, Joyce R.
Taylor, Lori Denise
Taylor, Lucas
Taylor, Lula Virginia
Taylor, Suzanne E.
Taylor, Tara Faye
Taylor, Wiley
Taylor, William K.
Teague, Janice M.
Teague, Renita M.
Temple II, John A.
Tenequer, Linda Sue
Tennant, Sharon E.
Terrell, Sandra Eileen
Terry, Frank Amos
Thasiah, Billie Faye
Theus, Lajeune J.
Thomas Jr., Fred S.
Thomas, Carla J
Thomas, Eddie Leroy
Thomas, Emmet E.
Thomas, Fred Stormy
Thomas, Jay Carl
Thomas, Kelly
Thomas, Laura Jane
Thomas, Leslie Mack
Thomas, Lori Michelle
Thomas, Thomas Lee
Thomas, Todd jay
Thomas, Vanessa K.
Thomas, Victor A.
Thomas,Maurietta
Thompson Jr,Marshall
Thompson, Belva J
Thompson, Charles Don
Thompson, Franzetta
Thompson, Gregory E.
Thompson, Joyce Gwen
Thompson, Melville D.
Thompson, William L.
Tibbs Jr., Isaac William
Tibbs, Richard Lawrence
Tieben(Kite)Edna B.
Tieben, John Kite
Tiger (Bear) Annie
Tiger (Kelly), Kizzie
Tiger III, Yahola A.
Tiger Sr., Johnny Moore
Tiger(Kelley)Kizzie
Tiger(Wills)Thelma L.
Tiger, Angela Marie
Tiger, Anthony L.
Tiger, Artman
Tiger, Barbara Ann
Tiger, Billy George
Tiger, Darrell W.
Tiger, Guyasulta A.
Tiger, Harold Charles
Tiger, Juanita Vera
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Tiger, Lucy May
Tiger, Mark Edward
Tiger, Michael J.
Tiger, Miller James
Tiger, Phillip C.
Tiger, Ruth Ann
Tiger, Satoshi Maryon
Tiger, Timothy Rush
Tiger, Trischane G.
Tilley(Foster)Wanda
Tilley, Benjamin Scott
Timken, Jennifer
Timothy, Moses
Timothy, William S.
Tipton, Karen Elaine
Tolbert, Leonard H.
Tolbert, Ross Galen
Toledo, Shirley A.
Tolle, Leanna M.
Tom, Janice Lorene
Tom, Jennifer Alayne
Tomassi, David A.
Tomkus, Ruby Jane
Tomlin, Chiffie T.
Tomlin, Jack Walton
Tomlinson, Mary J.
Tompkins, Jerry Earl
Tompkins, Jimmy Dell
Torres, Gayle Anne
Torres, Serena Lynn
Tower, Betty Lou
Towy, Mark Alan
Traylor, Sarah E.
Trepp, Lance M.
Trepp, Rhianna Marie
Trickey, Max Benjamin
Truty, Rebecca M
Tucker, Branden Scott
Tucker, Bryan C.
Tucker, Jesse Ollie
Tulsa, Gwendolyn
Turner(Yardy)Hettie
Turner, Jack Dean
Tuttell, Laurie Lynn
Tyler, Eugene
Tyler, Margaret A.
Tyler, Rosetta L
Underwood, Teresa J.
Unussee, Nathan Jeffrey
Upshaw, Alicia M.
Upshaw, Michael G.
Upton, Robert Dale
Van Houdnac, Kathy L.
Vancil, Constance L.
Vandiver, Nina Leona
Vanzant, Donna Jayne
Vasquez, Maria Deidre
Vaughn, Martha J.

ELECTION BOARD

Vaughn, Saundra R.
Vaughn, Soundra Dee
Vaught, Tina L.
Verge, Alfred R.
Verge, Bryan K.
Verge, Kelly Alan
Verge, Willis H.
Vian, Cassandra Dee
Vickers, Rhana J.
Vietti(Hines), Betty
Villalba(Bowman)Diana
Voils, Scotty Ray
Voisine, Ramona J.
Vontress, Alberta
Vore, Robert F.
Voyles, Rocky Darrel
Vrazel(Tinney)Charlotte
Wacoche, Alex
Wacoche, Brian Reuben
Wade, Edith Pearl
Wadsworth, Benny R.
Wadsworth, John P.
Wadsworth, Laura K.
Wagenhauser, Michelle L
Wakatani, Dorena L.
Walker III, Russell Dale
Walker, Annie Mae
Walker, Bobbie Sue
Walker, Chalo M.
Walker, John A.
Walker, Lewis Mitchell
Walker, Robert W.
Walker, Rudolph Jerry
Walker, Virgil Ray
Walker, Willie Alex
Walkingsky, Della R.
Walkup, Justin Marshall
Wallace Jr., Donald Algin
Walls Sr.,Charles R.
Walter, Carrie Faye
Walters(Brown)Margaret
Walters, Rogers Dale
Ward(Resoff)Juanita
Ware, James Michael
Ware, Johnny Anthony
Ware, Steven Eugene
Warnock, Johnnie Orin
Warren, Debra Ann
Warrior (Albert), Rose
Warrior(Knight)Esther
Warrior, Latreva M.
Washington Jr., Joe
Washington, Angel
Washington, Betty L.
Washington, Brutus
Washington, Joseph
Washington, Joseph F.
Washington, La Monte
Washington, Olen Perry
Washington, Shawn C.
Wasson, Carla Jean
Watashe, Cleo
Watashe, Jerry Ray
Watashe, Joe Wesley
Watashe, Juanita Ruth
Watashe, Wesley, Levi
Waters, Dana E.
Watson, Ashley Ann
Watson, Cora Lee
Watson, Jr, George W.
Watson, Julian Blair
Watson, Mary Helen
Watt(Harjo),Betty Jo
Watta, Nathan Wayne
Watters, David E.
Wauahdooah, Joanne
Wawrzynia, Rita Sue
Weaver, Pamela Renee
Webb Jr., Charles
Webb Jr., Collins Loron
Webb, Gerald W.
Webb, Joseph D.
Webb, Kevin Kynard
Webb, Lawrence Edward
Webb, Ricardo W.
Webb, Richard Wayne
Webb-Collins, Eula
Weber, Christopher T.
Webster, Robin G.
Weder, Ora May
Wehunt, Patrick W.
Weins, Roy Lee
Welch, Patrick L.
Welchel, Kami L.
Wells Jr., Watie T.
Wells, Josephine
Wells, Rosezena J.
Wesley, Leo Charles
Wesley, Richard V.
Wesley, Roley J.
West(Gray)Mesulta
West(Watson)Iris R.
West, Blaine N.
West, Brandon Anthony
West, Cheryl Ann
West, Erceil Ellen
West, Russell E.
Westbrook, Sallie L.
Westbrook, Stephen
Westendorf, Satema M.
Wheatley, Maxine
Wheeler, Danny
Wheeler, Kevin Earl
Wheeler, Michael Ray
Whitaker, Mary E.
White, Byron Layden
White, Diane Lea
White, Fay Ann
White, Hubert Lee
White, Janet Lee
White, Randall D.
White, Sara Ann
Whitehorn, Steven
Whitfield, Gladys
Whitlow, David Bunyan
Whitlow, Jennifer Lea
Yahola, Donald Daniel
Whitlow, Johnny Louis
Whitlow, Samuel Gene
Whitman, Richard Ray
Whitson, Jeffery N.
Wilbanks Jr., Chester
Wiley(Boone)Ladossa
Wiley, David Harmon
Wilkinson, Patsy
Williams (Kaul), Vicky
Williams (Voice), Sherry
Williams, Cara D.
Williams, Carrie Lee
Williams, David I.
Williams, Dee L.
Williams, Jeremy P.
Williams, Jeryl Ray
Williams, Jualyne
Williams, Karen Sue
Williams, Ramona M.
Williams, Willella
Willis, Cherly D.
Wills, Susan Elaine
Wilmott, Jacob Thomas
Wilmott, Leslie Eugene
Wilmott, Robert N.
Wilmott, Theron N.
Wilson II, Otis Allen
Wilson, Allison A
Wilson, Barry L.
Wilson, Fredericka
Wilson, Katherine L.
Wilson, Marsha L.
Wilson, Nora E.
Wilson, Simon Leroy
Wilson, Todd Alan
Wind, James Charles
Wind, Thomas Kirk
Windell, Linda A.
Windes, John S.
Windsor, Judy Marie
Wingate, Phyllis Lynn
Winters, Michael L.
Wisdon, Russell M
Wisner, Johnnie Lee
Withers Jr., Frank W.
Withers, Barbara Ann
Withers, Oliver Lee
Withers, Travis Wayne
Witt, Deanna Lynn
Witty, Dale Ralph
Wolf, Ina Louise
Wolf, Wanda Faye
Wolf, Warren Glenn
Wood, Judy Florence
Wood, Kenneth Wayne
Wood, Steve M.
Woodfield, Samuel
Woodson, Sandra K.
Woody, Ronnie W.
Woody, Rose F.
Wooten, Dennis K.
Wooten, Donald J.
Workizer, Patsy P.
Workman, Ollie Mae
Worth, Johnathen C.
Worthington, Patti M.
Wright, Cleo M.
Wright, Howard
Wright, Mark R.
Wright, Michael Dotson
Wright, Teddy Lee
Wright, Thelma L.
Yahola, Charles R.
Yahola, Daniel A.
Yahola, James Alonzo
Yahola, Jonas Ray
Yahola, Juanita Christine
Yahola, Lisa Ann
Yahola, Robert W.
Yahola, Virginia S.
Yarbrough, Linda Fay
Yardy, Thomas Lewis
Yargee, Amon Eugene
Yargee, Joshua Dale
Yargee, Tony Ray
Yeatman, Darla A.
Yeatman, John R.
Yingling, Iva L.
York, Billy Jack
York, Robyn J.
Young Robbie Lee
Young(Polk), Ruth Ann
Young(Polk),Ruth
Young, Amy Michelle
Young, Curtis W.
Young, Cynthia Jo
Young, David Gene
Young, Stephen W.
Young, Tommy Lee
Young, Velma Jane
Young, William B.
Zech, Rita Ann
Zellner, Wanda June
Zermeno, Gwendolyn
Ziegler, Frances L.
Zielke, Roberta S.

2009 MCN Election Precincts

Creek District

-Bristow Indian Community Center
710 S. Main
-Sapulpa Indian Community Center
804 Forest Ave.

Mcintosh District

-Eufaula Indian Community Center
804 Forest Ave.
-Checotah Indian Community Center
500 Owens Ave.
-Hanna Indian Community Center
Last road through Hanna
Turn East and go four miles
-Yardeka Indian Community Center
8 miles SE of Henryetta
one mile south of Salem Baptist

Muskogee District

-Muscogee Indian Community Center
111 South Virginia

Okfuskee

-Okemah Indian Community Center
1100 S. Woody Guthrie St.
-Weleetka Indian Community
602 South Chickasaw

Okmulgee District

-Dewar Indian Community Center
212 Luella St.
- Okmulgee Indian Community Center
2701 N. Miami
- Twin Hills Community Center
8110 Highway 52

Tukvpvtce (Hughes) District

-Dustin Indian Community Center
Main Street
-Holdenville Indian Community Center
224 E. Poplar
-Wetumka Indian Community Center
Thomas Yahola Circle

Tulsa District

-Glenpool Indian Community Center
13839 S. Casper
(Next to the Smoke Shop on Hwy 75)
-Tulsa Indian Community Center
8611 South Union

Wagoner District

-Koweta Indian Community
30925 E. 141 St. S.

ATTENTION!!!

To all members and employees of Muscogee (Creek) Nation **Blue Ribbon Chevrolet** of Okmulgee is starting a program that entitles all Creek Nation employees and members to a special discount program on all new cars, trucks and SUVs. All will be at supplier pricing, which is the same as if Creek Nation was buying them. This is for qualified buyers with approved credit.

Also a discount on all our used cars, trucks, and SUVs. It has been a great experience for **Blue Ribbon Chevrolet** to do business with Muscogee Creek Nation through the years and we would like to show our appreciation. We also have a program for some that might have credit problems, to get them in a new or used car, truck or SUVs with little money down. This will help start to re-build your credit for the future, we will do everything possible to help to get your credit approved.

Also a discount in our service department like:
Ladies Day, Oil changes on every Thursday for $20.95 for every one.
First come, First serve basis

Mvto! From all the people at **Blue Ribbon Chevrolet**
The dealer of the future for Okmulgee County, We are here to help.
Must show Citizenship card or Employee badge for this program.

Please contact our Fleet Manager, Danny Fults at (918)756-7582
or come by our showroom for a visit - Where the coffee is always on!

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HIYU RAKKO — BIG HARVEST MONTH

THE MNN

• EXTRA EDITION •

Volume 2, Issue 7 www.themuscogeecreeknation.com August 2009

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Rebecca Landsberry

Letter from the Editor:

Hensci readers! School is officially back in session and I hope that means an end to the heat sometime in the near future, if we're lucky. My family and I were blessed with a (somewhat) breezy, overcast afternoon while we said our good-byes to the matriarch of our family, my Grandma Gladys. My sister and I sang Amazing Grace as family and friends sprinkled dirt over the coffin at the Fisher-Barnett Family Cemetery.

I wish I would have spent more time just sitting with her. She was the best storyteller I've ever met and don't think anyone will be taking that title from her anytime soon. She was absolutely a one-of-a-kind woman who did things her own way and I will miss her dearly.

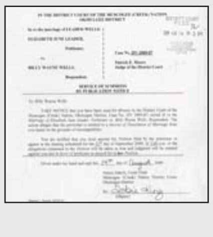
There are so many things our elders can teach us. From taking a few moments to appreciate a good story to sharing wisdom with us about their own experiences as Creek people, they are truly irreplaceable and something to be cherished.

It's almost election time again here at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and I want to encourage each and every citizen to register (if you haven't already, there are still a few days left) and vote. Whether you're living in New Mexico, New Jersey or right here in Okmulgee, Okla., each vote counts so be sure to check out the candidates profiles.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

• Legal notices



DV 2009-87: Leader vs. Wells

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• 2009 Candidate Profiles

National Council candidate profiles

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MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL

SEPT. 19 PRIMARY ELECTION

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

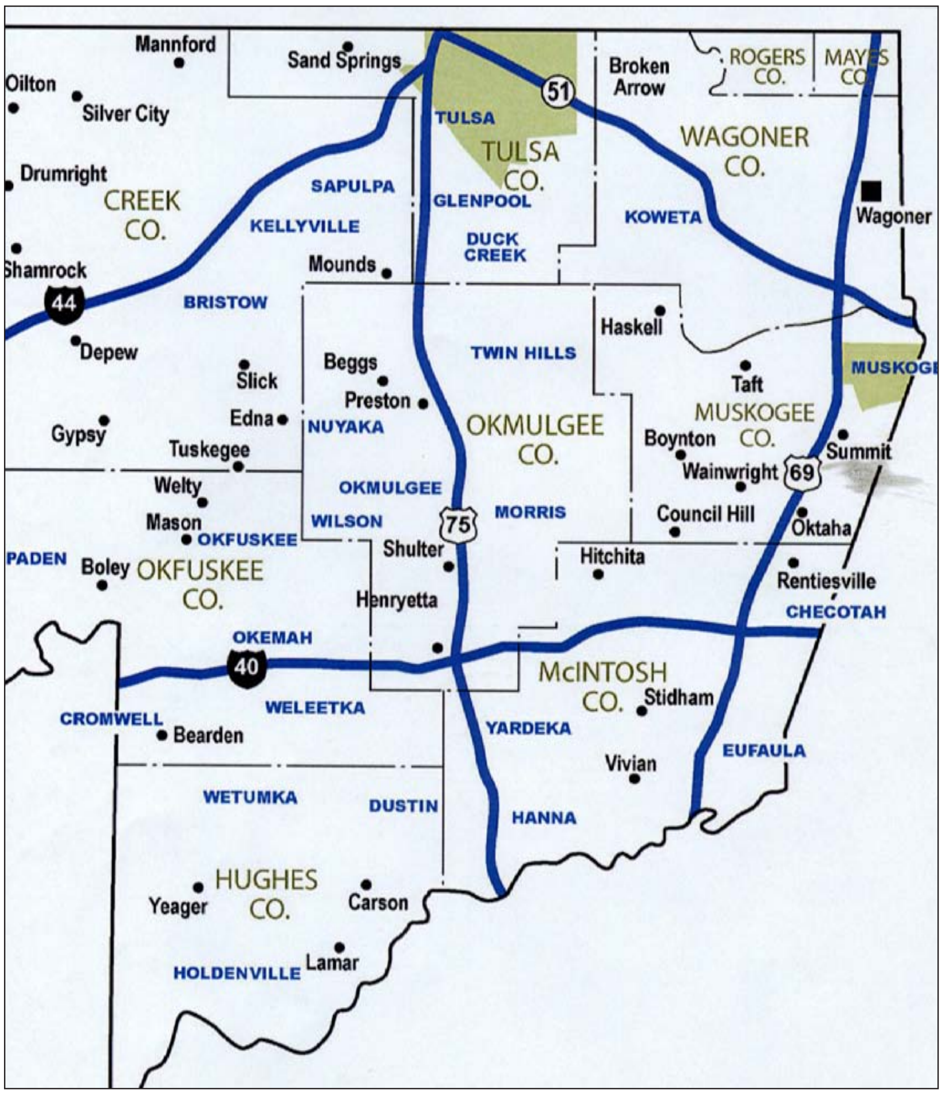
OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Election Board will hold primary elections for the 2009-2010 Muscogee (Creek) National Council candidates on Saturday, Sept. 19, 2009.

In preparing for the 2009 National Council Election, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board is in the process of updating voter information and asks that registered voters contact the office with an updated address in order to vote in the upcoming election. The Election Board cannot change citizen addresses without the consent of the individual.

If any of the citizens listed in the August edition of the *MNN* are deceased, a family member must contact the office in order for the deceased to be removed from the list. If citizens do not contact the Election Board, they will be placed on an invalid list and will have to re-register in order to vote.

The deadline for Absentee Ballot Request Forms is Thursday, Aug. 27, with ballots being mailed the following Monday, Aug. 31, 2009. Precinct registration closes Wednesday, Sept. 9. The General Election is scheduled the following Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009 at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

For more information, please contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board at (918) 732-7684, toll-free at 1-800-482-1979 or by fax at (918) 756-2637.



MWLI August meeting set for 32nd annual IICOT Powwow

Media Release
Mvskoke Women's Leadership Initiative

TULSA — The Mvskoke Women's Leadership Initiative (MWLI) is steadily growing and empowering women all over Mvkoke country!

Since the inaugural gathering in March of this year, the MWLI has over 100 women from all over the Nation participating or contributing. Each month brings new sisters to the gatherings where lifelong friendships and networks are developing.

Highlights of the past few months have included guest speaker Norma Marshall, a Mother's Day cook-out and a float in the Creek Nation Festival parade. In July, Checotah Indian Community member Lisa Storm hosted the MWLI with lots of great food, door prizes and guest speaker Linda McIntosh-Saltsman.

It was an honor to learn that from one family, four generations of Mvskoke women have been active in the Checotah Indian Community and the walls are adorned with historic pictures of Mvskoke women and families.

For August, MWLI will be hosted by Cherrah Quiett and Family during the 32nd Annual IICOT Pow-Wow of Champions at the Perryman Ranch in Jenks, Okla., Saturday, Aug. 22.

For more information regarding the MWLI, please contact Angela Bunner by phone at (918) 304-0331 or E-mail: mugtownhokte@yahoo.com.

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Intern - Lee Longhorn

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Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

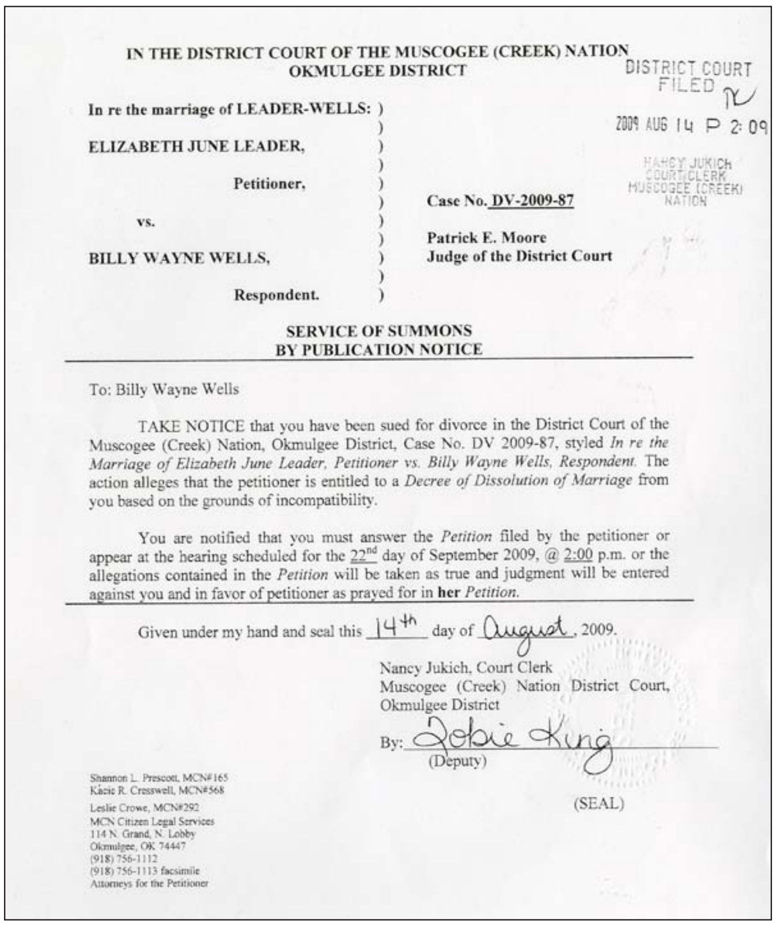
District Court filings for March 2009

The District Court filings from March 1, 2009 through March 31, 2009 are as follows:

MCN v. Courtney Prease	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs with Intent
MCN v. Joseph Walker	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Eulana Bruner	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Luther Mosley	Ct. 1: Cheating by Check

Traffic:

MCN v. Raymond Mason	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Susan Webb	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Charles Stillwell	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Brian Edwards	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. James Walker	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Thomas Chase	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Thomas Chase	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Leon McPerryman	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Leon McPerryman	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Jeffrey Daniels	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Jarrod McIntosh	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Jarrod McIntosh	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. William Ellis	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Allen Rich	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Allen Rich	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Dexter Ross	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Dexter Ross	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Pauline Jack	Ct. 1: Duties in Event of Accident
MCN v. Pauline Jack	Ct. 1: No Driver's License
MCN v. Jarrett Burge	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Sara Berry	Ct. 1: Driving while License Suspended
MCN v. Yolanda Reed	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. James Caddell	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning and Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Michael Baker	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Michael Baker	Ct. 1: No Driver's License



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 AUG 14 P 2:09
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

In re the marriage of LEADER-WELLS:)
ELIZABETH JUNE LEADER,)
Petitioner,)
vs.) **Case No. DV-2009-87**
BILLY WAYNE WELLS,) **Patrick E. Moore**
Respondent.) **Judge of the District Court**

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Billy Wayne Wells

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV 2009-87, styled *In re the Marriage of Elizabeth June Leader, Petitioner vs. Billy Wayne Wells, Respondent.* The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear at the hearing scheduled for the 22nd day of September 2009, @ 2:00 p.m. or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in **her** *Petition.*

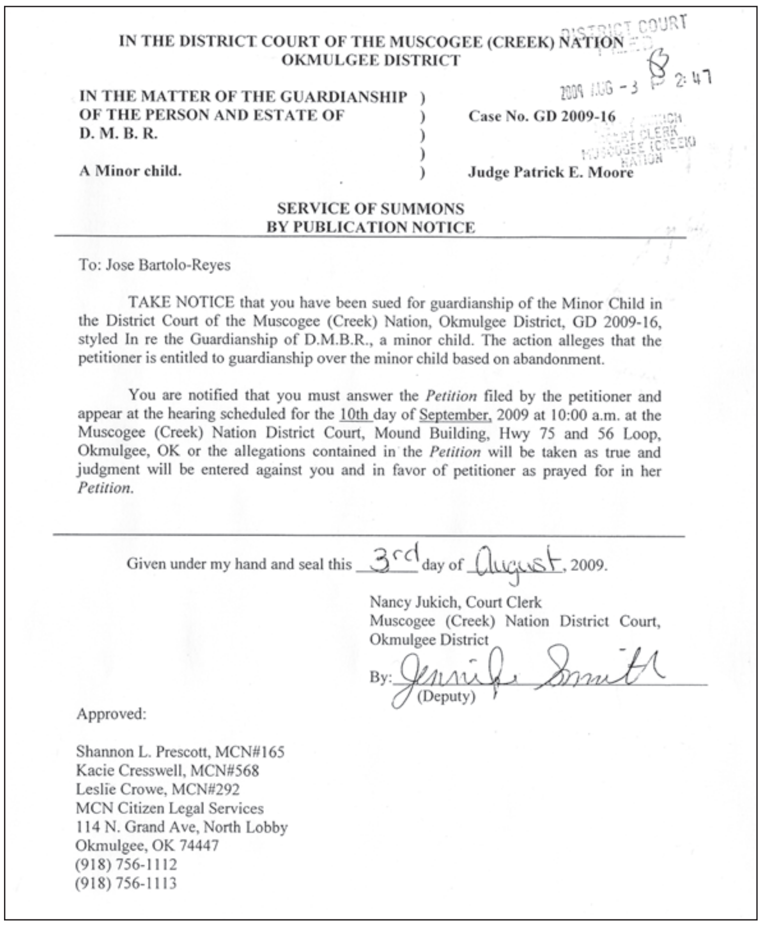
Given under my hand and seal this 14th day of August, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By: Jobie King
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kacie R. Cresswell, MCN#568
Leslie Crowe, MCN#292
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand, N. Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113 facsimile
Attorneys for the Petitioner



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 AUG -3 P 2:47
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP)
OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE OF) **Case No. GD 2009-16**
D. M. B. R.)
A Minor child.) **Judge Patrick E. Moore**

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Jose Bartolo-Reyes

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship of the Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD 2009-16, styled In re the Guardianship of D.M.B.R., a minor child. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner and appear at the hearing scheduled for the 10th day of September, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Mound Building, Hwy 75 and 56 Loop, Okmulgee, OK or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition.*

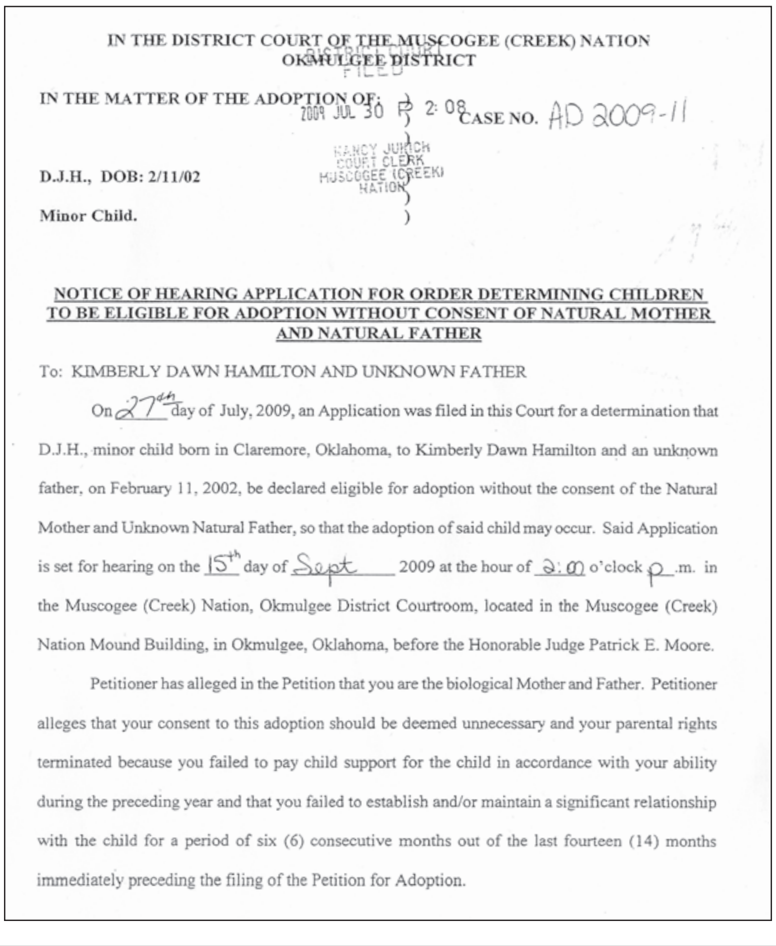
Given under my hand and seal this 3rd day of August, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By: Jennifer Smith
(Deputy)

Approved:

Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kacie Cresswell, MCN#568
Leslie Crowe, MCN#292
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 JUL 30 P 2:08
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

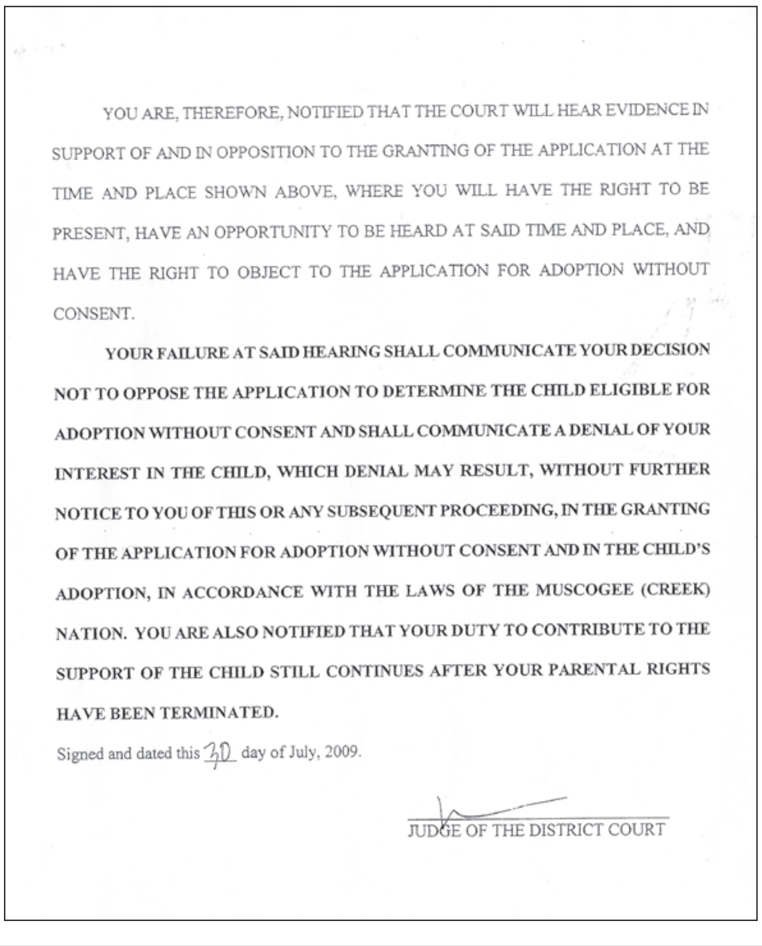
IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF:) **CASE NO.** AD 2009-11
D.J.H., DOB: 2/11/02)
Minor Child.)

NOTICE OF HEARING APPLICATION FOR ORDER DETERMINING CHILDREN TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT OF NATURAL MOTHER AND NATURAL FATHER

To: KIMBERLY DAWN HAMILTON AND UNKNOWN FATHER

On 27th day of July, 2009, an Application was filed in this Court for a determination that D.J.H., minor child born in Claremore, Oklahoma, to Kimberly Dawn Hamilton and an unknown father, on February 11, 2002, be declared eligible for adoption without the consent of the Natural Mother and Unknown Natural Father, so that the adoption of said child may occur. Said Application is set for hearing on the 15th day of Sept 2009 at the hour of 2:00 o'clock p.m. in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District Courtroom, located in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound Building, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore.

Petitioner has alleged in the Petition that you are the biological Mother and Father. Petitioner alleges that your consent to this adoption should be deemed unnecessary and your parental rights terminated because you failed to pay child support for the child in accordance with your ability during the preceding year and that you failed to establish and/or maintain a significant relationship with the child for a period of six (6) consecutive months out of the last fourteen (14) months immediately preceding the filing of the Petition for Adoption.



YOU ARE, THEREFORE, NOTIFIED THAT THE COURT WILL HEAR EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF AND IN OPPOSITION TO THE GRANTING OF THE APPLICATION AT THE TIME AND PLACE SHOWN ABOVE, WHERE YOU WILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE PRESENT, HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD AT SAID TIME AND PLACE, AND HAVE THE RIGHT TO OBJECT TO THE APPLICATION FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT.

YOUR FAILURE AT SAID HEARING SHALL COMMUNICATE YOUR DECISION NOT TO OPPOSE THE APPLICATION TO DETERMINE THE CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT AND SHALL COMMUNICATE A DENIAL OF YOUR INTEREST IN THE CHILD, WHICH DENIAL MAY RESULT, WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE TO YOU OF THIS OR ANY SUBSEQUENT PROCEEDING, IN THE GRANTING OF THE APPLICATION FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT AND IN THE CHILD'S ADOPTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION. YOU ARE ALSO NOTIFIED THAT YOUR DUTY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUPPORT OF THE CHILD STILL CONTINUES AFTER YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS HAVE BEEN TERMINATED.

Signed and dated this 30 day of July, 2009.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

Job opportunities with Gaming Operations Authority Board

CHIEF SECURITY OFFICER

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Gaming Operations Authority Board (GOAB) seeks a talented professional for the career opportunity of Chief Security Officer (CSO). The CSO will report directly to the GOAB or a designated executive officer.

The CSO will be responsible for strategic and daily operations for centralizing, planning, organizing, managing, implementing, and reviewing all security functions for all gaming operations. This includes protecting the health and safety of guests and employees and their property; preserving the assets of the respective gaming operations; ensuring compliance with appropriate laws and regulations; conducting investigations and taking action regarding accidents, injuries, property damage, and criminal activity; cooperating with other law enforcement agencies; and controlling traffic patterns at the properties.

Additional responsibilities include developing departmental policies and procedures, business plans, adequate staffing levels, risk management assessments, proper document preparation and retention, training and growth initiatives, mentor-protégé programs, departmental budgets, internal and external customer service programs, and meeting such other goals and objectives established by the GOAB. The CSO must be a leader and strong communicator, with proven skills to meet the responsibilities of the position.

Education and Experience: The position requires a minimum of 10 years' law enforcement experience, with at least five years in upper level security or law enforcement management, P.O.S.T. or other law enforcement certification, and managerial security experience in gaming operations. A bachelor's degree is preferred. Proficiency in multiple-site management is preferred. A sound working knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel, Access and human resource software programs is desirable.

Preference: Native American preference is a policy and practice in recruitment, hiring, advancement, and retention.

Licensure: The successful candidate must be able to obtain a gaming license issued by the Office of Public Gaming. A background investigation is required.

Compensation: Negotiable.

Closing Date: All responses must be submitted on or before September 7, 2009.

Holdenville

GENERAL MANAGER

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Gaming Operations Authority Board (GOAB) seeks a talented professional for the career opportunity of General Manager. The General Manager will report directly to the GOAB or a designated executive officer.

The successful candidate will be responsible for overseeing all daily gaming operations and ensuring the efficiency and profitability of the Creek Nation Casino in Holdenville, Oklahoma. Primary key responsibilities include maintain internal controls and procedures to ensure protection of company assets and enforcement of casino policies and procedures; develop and implement business plan, organizational structure and budgets to maximize profit and accomplish goals and objectives of the GOAB; and take ownership in matters involving employment, finance, marketing, IT, facilities, customer relations, and compliance with gaming regulations. This position requires a leader of high integrity with exceptional creativity and motivational, oral/written communications and human relations skills to achieve maximum performance.

Education and Experience: A bachelor's degree in business administration, management or related field is preferred. Ten (10) years' experience in Class II/Class III Indian Gaming is required. At least five (5) years' experience in upper level management is preferred.

Licensure: The successful candidate must be able to obtain a gaming license issued by the Office of Public Gaming. A background investigation is required.

Preference: Native American preference is a policy and practice in recruitment, hiring, advancement, and retention.

Compensation: Negotiable.

Closing Date: All responses must be submitted on or before September 7, 2009.

Duck Creek

GENERAL MANAGER

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Gaming Operations Authority Board (GOAB) seeks a talented professional for the career opportunity of General Manager. The General Manager will report directly to the GOAB or a designated executive officer.

The successful candidate will be responsible for overseeing all daily gaming operations and ensuring the efficiency and profitability of the Creek Nation Duck Creek Casino. Primary key responsibilities include maintain internal controls and procedures to ensure protection of company assets and enforcement of casino policies and procedures; develop and implement business plan, organizational structure and budgets to maximize profit and accomplish goals and objectives of the GOAB; and take ownership in matters involving employment, finance, marketing, IT, facilities, customer relations, and compliance with gaming regulations. This position requires a leader of high integrity with exceptional creativity and motivational, oral/written communications and human relations skills to achieve maximum performance.

Education and Experience: A bachelor's degree in business administration, management or related field is preferred. Ten (10) years' experience in Class II/Class III Indian Gaming is required. At least five (5) years' experience in upper level management is preferred.

Licensure: The successful candidate must be able to obtain a gaming license issued by the Office of Public Gaming. A background investigation is required.

Preference: Native American preference is a policy and practice in recruitment, hiring, advancement, and retention.

Compensation: Negotiable.

Closing Date: All responses must be submitted on or before September 7, 2009.

For all positions, please contact: MCN Gaming Operations Authority Board

P.O. Box 700833
Tulsa, OK 74170-0833
Telephone: (918) 298-8420
Facsimile: (918) 995-8476
E-mail: goab1@hotmail.com

Community Calendar

• OSU American Indian Alumni Association reception

STILLWATER — On Sept. 19, the OSU American Indian Alumni Association will be honoring alumnus Walter Echo-Hawk Jr., Esq., '70.

The reception will be held in the Oklahoma Room 211 of the OSU Student Union from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. The OSU American Indian Alumni Association Annual Meeting will immediately follow.

For more information contact Angela Bunner at (918) 304-0331 or by E-mail at Bunner@okstate.edu.

• Haskell reunion

TULSA — On Oct. 9-11, the Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma invites all Haskell alumni and friends to attended the annual Haskell reunion.

The reunion will be held at the Radisson Inn located at 10918 E. 41st Street near Garnett and 41st Streets in Tulsa, OK.

For more information contact Flo Spotted Bear at (918) 948-2505.

• Marshall reunion

WETUMKA — The Marshall family reunion will be held on Sept 7, at the Wetumka Indian Baptist Church.

There will be contests and games throughout the day.

2009 MCN voter precinct information

Creek District

- Bristow Indian Community Center
710 S. Main St.
- Sapulpa Indian Community Center
1020 N. Brown St.

Mcintosh District

- Eufaula Indian Community Center
804 Forest Ave.
- Checotah Indian Community Center
500 Owens Ave.
- Hanna Indian Community Center
Last road through Hanna, turn east and go four miles
- Yardeka Indian Community Center
Eight miles SE of Henryetta (one mile south of Salem Baptist)

Muskogee District

- Muscogee Indian Community Center
111 South Virginia

Okfuskee

- Okemah Indian Community Center
1100 S. Woody Guthrie St.
- Weleetka Indian Community
602 S. Chickasaw

Okmulgee District

- Dewar Indian Community Center
212 Luella St.
- Okmulgee Indian Community Center
2701 N. Miami
- Twin Hills Community Center
8110 Highway 52

Tukvpvtce (Hughes) District

- Dustin Indian Community Center
Main Street
- Holdenville Indian Community Center
224 E. Poplar
- Wetumka Indian Community Center
608 N. Creek St.

Tulsa District

- Glenpool Indian Community Center
13839 S. Casper
- Tulsa Indian Community Center
8611 South Union

Wagoner District

- Koweta Indian Community
30925 E. 141st St. S

Community Calendar

• 2009 CHR Educational Conference

CATOOSA — On Sept. 14-18 there will be the 2009 CHR Educational Conference. The conference will be held at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino located in Catoosa.

The banquet speaker will be Nicky Solomon, who was the first CHR National Coordinator. Also attending is the current National Coordinator Cathy Stueckeman.

The conference is open to the public. The conference will cover updates on Diabetes, Elder Excerises, the PAK Training, BP/BS Re-certification, Elder abuse/neglect, HIV/AIDS, Cancer in Native Americans, Alzheimer's, Victims Impact Panel and Care for the Caregiver. For more information contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation CHR Program at (918) 623-1925.

• Family of (Creek) soldiers killed in action

OKMULGEE — It is requested that family members of Muscogee (Creek) soldiers Killed In Action during World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam kindly contact the Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO) to provide the following: name of the Muscogee (Creek) soldier, verification of citizen, killed in action verification, birth date, service branch and killed in action date.

The requested purpose of this information is to publicly honor and recognize our tribal soldiers in the Veterans affairs Services Office (VASO) Memorial Courtyard.

For more information or assistance please contact Ken Davis, Manager at (918) 732-7739 or by e-mail at kdavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov or contact Shawn Taryole, Assistant at (918) 732-7745 or by e-mail at staryole @ muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

CREEK DISTRICT

Seat B
Name: Monty L. Bunny

No Information Submitted

Seat B (Incumbent)
Name: Larry Joe Cahwee
Family: Son of William Cahwee and Bessie Felix of Kellyville

Education: Kellyville High School, Bacone Junior College and Northeastern State University with a Bachelors of Education

Experience: I would like to thank each of you for the prayers that went up for me, while I was in the hospital in 2008. Its been a short two years, but its time to run for office again. This is a very interesting position, I have introduced several pieces of legislation inlcuding the swimming pool in Sapulpa, Okla., and have assisted in several churches receiving grants, such as Picket Chapel in Sapulpa, Mutteloke Church and Choska Church in Bristow.

I have helped sponsored a Euchee Laungue Class in Sapulpa,Oklahoma. I worked with the Creek Indian Community in Sapulpa and Kellyville on a Lawn Mowing Program to help Seniors and Handicap. I also work with the Veterans Program to establish a fund to help Veterans with physical and other expenses. I would appreciate your vote in the up coming election.

Seat B
Name: George Tiger
Age: 59
Clan: Wind
Church: Yardeka Indian Baptist Church
Ground: Hickory Ground

Education: Morris High School, Northeastern A & M Junior College; Miami, Okla.; Haskell Indian Junior College; Lawrence, KS; Northeastern Oklahoma State University; Tahlequah, Okla.

Experience: Multi-term National Council representative, National Council 2006-2007 14th Session Speaker; Chairman, United Indian Nations of Oklahoma 2006-2007; President, Haskell Indian Nations University National Board of Regents. Experience being an advocate for tribes on a state and federal level and achieving leadership roles provide me with an insight which can be used as a resource in serving as a Representative.

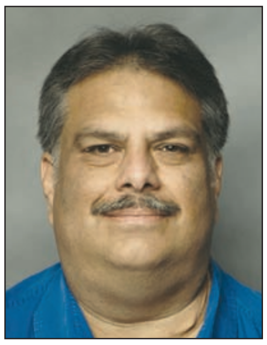
If elected, I will work with everyone to improve and strengthen legislation that allows for citizens and communities to have easier access to programs and services rather than be confronted with red tape and political rhetoric and scrutiny.

McINTOSH DISTRICT

Seat B (Incumbent)
Name: Adam Jones, III
Clan: Bear
Tribal Town: Koweta
Church: Little Coweta Indian Baptist

Education: Associates Degree in Business from Connor's State College

No Information Submitted



Seat B
Name: Anthony D. Notaro

Experience: As a former two-term council member, I have the experience as well as the vision for our nations direction. It has been a tremendously slow growth period for our nation in the last two years. We must diversify our revenue making businesses since we are reliable on two sources mostly-gaming and tobacco.

I believe that we must revamp our Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise and Trade and Commerce Authorities to make them revenue-making businesses for our nation and not just investment black holes. Let's hold them accountable for the real reasons of their creations and that is to generate business and revenue to our peoples' growth and benefit.

I also feel that we as a people need to strive to unite and quit the infighting and division that exists within the nation. We are stronger united than divided and need to remember that the only people that are hurt from this are our people. I believe that we need to find better revenue streams to our health systems in order for our people to receive the best health care possible. I am running to give our people the best opportunities for them .My vision is one of unity and growth for our nation. MVTO

Seat B
Name: Bobby Sullivan
Age: 36
Tribal Town: Tuskegee
Clan: Tiger

Education: Eufaula High School, OSU-Tech and College of the Muscogee Nation

Experience: "I'm running for National Council because its time to move forward instead of settling for the way things have been done in the past." Sullivan expressed his desire to see the tribe become involved in business endeavors other than casinos.

"Casinos have been great for the tribe, but it is time for all council members to work towards goals that would benefit all communities, districts, and each tribal member. The tribe needs to create new business and jobs, especially in our rural districts, like McIntosh. I encourage National Council Members to seek out new business ventures that would benefit the whole tribe."

Email: sullivnb@yahoo.com

Ferrellgas
Blue Rhino

Special offer for Creek Nation Tribal Members

- Discounted Price on Propane
- FREE Tank Switch Out
- FREE System Safety Check
- Used 500 gallon tank for $450
- Discounted Lease on Tanks

Normal tank lease charge is $80 per year on a 500 gallon tank Tribal members will be offered a lease fee of $50 per year

Am I eligible for this program?

- The tribal member must live in our service area
- Make sure to inform the Customer Service Specialist that you are a Creek Nation tribal member

James Parker - Account Manager
Cell Phone: 918-277-2470

MUSKOGEE DISTRICT

Seat B (Incumbent)
Name: Eddie LaGrone
Clan: Katcvlke
Tribal Town: Tvkvpvtce

No Information Submitted

OKFUSKEE DISTRICT

Seat B
Name: Mary L. (Severs) Lee
Clan: Alligator
Family: Spouse, Simeon Lee; Parents, Jim and Ella Severs; Paternal, Robert and Annie Benson Severs; Maternal, Edmond and Melissa Canard Harjo.
Education: Masters of Science in Human Resources, East Central University, Ada, Oklahoma.

Experience: Served on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System Board. Implemented, developed, and directed the Cocational Rehabilitation Program of Creek Nation. Selected as the Project Person for the start up of the Creek Nation Reintegration Program. Past Vice-President of Blue Star Mothers, Muskogee, Oklahoma. Speaks the Muscogee (Creek) language. Envisions a unified, one, Tribal Nation with the latest technology advancing the quality of health care, housing and other service programs; and whereby these services are offered in a manner that is accommodating and equally accessible to all citizens of Muscogee (Creek) Nation. "As your representative, I will serve you to the utmost of my ability."

Seat B
Name: Nancy (West) Watson
Clan: Deer
Church: Prairie Springs Indian Baptist Church
Family: Daughter of the late Calvin and Agnes (Fixico) West, two daughters and five grandchildren

Experience: Presently, Watson is a member of the Okfuskee Indian Community and of the Mason Public School Board of Education. She has served three terms on the Muscogee (Creek) National Council where she drafted, sponsored and supported legislation that benefited Creek citizens in various areas of need.

While in office, she served on the Human Development, Fact Finding and the Internal Affairs Committees and is now seeking a fourth term.

"In hard economic times like these, Creek citizens and communities alike need to have the assurance that they can obtain the necessary services and resources to continue their livelihood. The three branches of government must work together to achieve the proper legislation to make it happen. Together we can achieve a more progressive and prosperous Nation. The citizens and the communities need and deserve undivided attention and strong advocacy."

Seat B (Incumbent)
Name: Lena Wind
Clan: Bear
Tribal Town: Alabama
Family: daughter of the late Rev. James and Barbara Wind, two children, Famous and Sunnie Marshall; four grandchildren, Anna, Brina, Chasity, Rhett, Whitney, Tafv and Dominic

Education: Associated Degree from Seminole State College; B.S. Ed NSU, Tahlaquah, Okla.,; M.A. ED OCU, Oklahoma City, Okla.

No Information Submitted

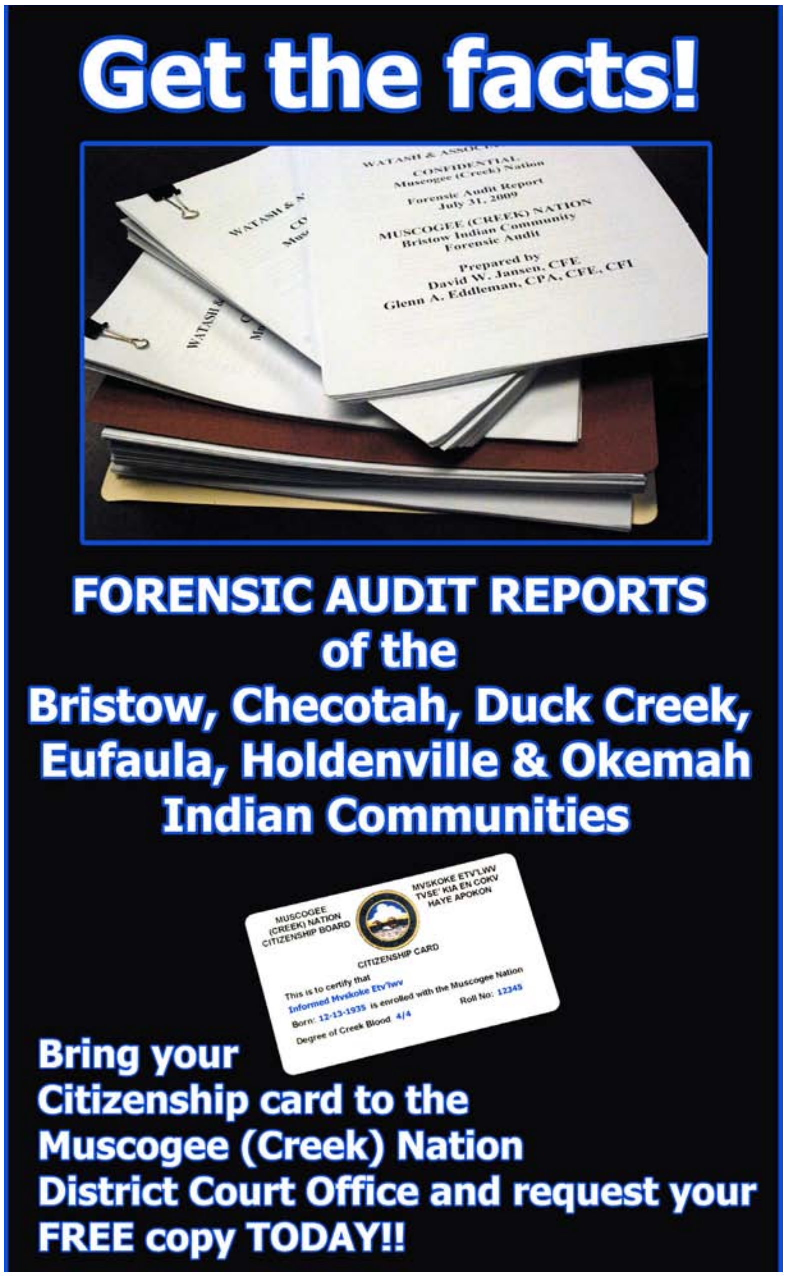
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

Seat B
Name: Jeff Fife
Clan: Wotko (Racoon)
Tribal Twon: Tvkvpvtce
Church: Thewarle Baptist

No Information Submitted

Seat B (Incumbent)
Name: Keeper Johnson
Clan: Katcv
Church: Belvin Baptist Church
Family: Married with two children, six grand children, and one great grand son.
Tribal Town: Coweta
Ceremonial Town: Green Leaf
Education: High School Graduate with a Bachelors degree from Kentucky University and Masters degree from Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Okla.

Experience: Active church member who teaches Sunday school for children and adults. United States Army Veteran with an Honorable Discharge from the Army Medical Research Laboratory at Fort Knox, Kentucky. Oklahoma State Retiree with twenty-eight years of service as a vocational Rehabilitation Counselor. "I have written and sponsored legislation for programs concerning health, education and senior citizens."



Get the facts!

FORENSIC AUDIT REPORTS of the Bristow, Checotah, Duck Creek, Eufaula, Holdenville & Okemah Indian Communities

Bring your Citizenship card to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court Office and request your FREE copy TODAY!!

Community Calendar

• Duck Creek Indian Community

DUCK CREEK — The Duck Creek Indian Community is having their Community elections on Sept 1, at 7p.m. immediately following the community meeting.

For more information call 267-3460.

• NORC Field Interviewers wanted

OKMULGEE — A national organization for research at the University of Chicago (NORC) is looking for self-motivated, outgoing individuals to work on a project about 2010 Census Media efforts.

Applicants will be visiting homes within the tribal communities and completing a 30 minute interview to evaluate the effectiveness of the different types of media used by the U.S. Census.

Compensation is set for $13.18 per hour plus mileage reimbursement of $.55 per mile. Must ne available to work 25-30 flexible hours per week, including daytime, evening and weekends.

Work will be available during the following three field periods: Sept. 1- Nov. 15, 2009; Feb. 1- March 15, 2010 and May 1,- June 15, 2010.

Two days paid training will be held in Okmulgee before the start of the field period. Applicants must have reliable transportation with required insurance coverage as well as a good driving history. Minimum car insurance coverage requires liability insurance of 100K/300/K/50K. Drivers may be hired for interviewers lacking the coverage.

Applicants must sign a release allowing a background check. There are two ways to apply: go online and complete an application at www.norc.org Careers-Field Interviewers-Current Opportunities- Field Operations-Creek/Okmulgee OK.

Applicants can also apply by calling toll free 877-368-6571 to request an application.

NORC is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer that values and actively seeks diversity in the workforce.

Community Calendar

• Food Distribution offices will be closed

OKMULGEE — The Food Distribution Program offices will be closed on Aug. 28, and Aug. 31, for inventory/remodeling.

• Best Community Recipe contest

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Food Distribution Program is looking for individuals that would like to participate in the Best Community Recipe contest.

The rules and regulations are:

Recipe must contain at least four ingredients from the commodity program.

Recipe must be an original.

Recipe must be turned in by the deadline, Friday Sept. 11.

The winner will be posted at the Okmulgee site and will be notified.

To obtain an entry form, stop by the Food Distribution office located at 3001 N. Wood Dr. in Okmulgee, OK 74447. Also by phone at (918) 756-3467 for the office, or toll free at 800-482-1979 or by fax at (918) 758-0849. Also visit the website at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov and follow the links under Community Services.

• Domestic Violence Training Course

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Family Violence Prevention and Domestic Violence Programs have teamed up with the Cherokee Nation Marshal Service and the Native Alliance Against Violence to present a two day Domestic Violence Training Course.

The course will be held Aug. 26-27 and trainers will be Sgt. Danny Doolin, Cherokee Nation Marshal Service, Renee Brewer, Executive Director - Native Alliance Against Violence/Reserve Officer -Seminole Nation Lighthorse Police.

Training will be held at the Green Country Technology Center located at 1100 Hwy 56 in Okmulgee from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 16 Cleet hours will be offered with no fees or charges, including wo hours of mental health.

For more information, call (918) 732-7864 or fax at (918) 732-7855.

OKMULGEE DISTRICT continued

Seat D (Incumbent)
Name: Carmin Tecumseh-Williams
Family: Husband O. Joseph Williams, one son, Logan Gore and two step-children Preston and Brittney Williams. Parents are Elsie (Harjo) Tecumseh and the late Nero Tecumseh and step-father Simeon Lee Sr. Paternal grandparents are the late Israel and Wisey (Scott) Tecumseh and Maternal grandparents the late George (G.W.) and Cora (Davis) Harjo of Sasakwa, Okla., and the late Sukey Lowe.
Siblings are the late Geronimo Tecumseh, Simeon Lee, Jr., Sebrina Lee, Sharla Lee and Selestine Lee.

Education: Graduated from Henryetta High school in 1987. Attended Northeastern State University and graduated with a B.S. degree in Criminal Justice. Master's Degree in Human Relations from the University of Oklahoma.

Experience: Tecumseh began her career in Indian Child Welfare in 1992 with the Children & Family service Administration for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. She currently serves as the incumbent for Okmulgee District-Seat D.

"I have committed my first term as a representative to be the voice for my communities as well as the nation as a whole. I ask for your vote on September 19, 2009 so that I may continue to serve the people of the Great Muscogee Nation with utmost integrity."

Seat D
Name: David Lewis, Jr.

Education: Degree from Connor's State College and East Central University; Five-year veteran of the United States Marine Corp., honorably discharged in 1960.

Experience: During his previous 10 years in office, it was his desire to provide citizens with a more cost-effective way to title and register motor vehicles that eventually led to the development of the Nation's Motor Vehicle Code, which was implemented in 1997. The program has generated approximately $17 million for tribal programs since its inception 13 years ago. He also helped to establish the post-graduate program so students may have the opportunity to further their education without being hampered by cost.

"I believe that in order to sufficiently represent you as your council member, I must regularly attend the council sessions and committee meetings. Official records from my previous terms reflect a 94 percent attendance record. With your help, I am confident that I will pick up where I left off and continue to push for more education funding, continuing improvement in our health care system and the viable economic project."

Seat D
Name: Pearl Thomas
Clan: Bear Clan
Church: Honey Creek Methodist Indian Church
Tribal Town: Cheyaha

No Information Submitted

Seat D
Name: Rebecca Holloway Torres
Clan: Wotko (Racoon)
Church: Belvin Baptist
Ground: Arbeka Ceremonial Ground
Family: Daughter of the late Grady and Esther Holloway, maternal granddaughter of Leona Fox, Eastman and Cinda (Thompson) Richard. daughter Mia Torres

Experience: Applicable experience includes Muskogee YWCA Youth and Program Director, Continuing Education for N.S.U. Children's Theater, I.S.S. Teacher for Sequoyah H.S., that gives insight to youth programs, which could be culturally-based. Experience in mental health that dealt primarily with adolescent Native Americans which provides a background for implementing culturally-sensitive treatment centers. Owning and operating the Kangaroo Pouch Maternity and Children's Store, Ada Fitness Center and Black Gold Oil Well Services gives practical work experience in marketing, advertising, sales, customer service, financing, budgeting, strategic planning and required logical thinking skills.

Muscogee Nation needs a vision that can be translated into action. Our vision should be a government that works for all citizens and elevates our standard of living. We need a department of grant writers to secure untapped resources, a tribally-owned bank to stimulate growth, provide diversified employment, culturally-sensitive assisted living and nursing home to pursue our educated, skilled and trained citizens to benefit our nation.

TULSA DISTRICT

Seat B (Incumbent)
Name: Cherrah Quiett
Clan: Bird
Tribal Town: Broken Arrow
Church: All Tribes Community Church
Family: Husband Russ and four children Tafv, E'tya, Russell II, and Ridge
Education: Bachelor and Master's degrees in Social Work from the University of Oklahoma

Experience: In her fourth term as a Representative, Cherrah has chaired the Women's Caucus, Community Services & Cultural, Human Development and Constitutional Amendment Committees; lending to her proven experience and capabilities of being a positive and effective leader.

Cherrah received her Bachelor's and Master of Social Work degrees from the University of Oklahoma. In her current career, she is the Director of Operations for The Horizon Companies. She strongly believes in being accessible, visible and active in the community and is a member of the Tulsa Creek Indian Community, Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women, Tulsa Indian Club, National Congress of American Indians and Women Empowering Women for Indian Nations. She and her husband Russ make their home in Tulsa with their four children, Tafv, E'tya, Russell II, and Ridge. Cherrah believes in perseverance and tenacity when it comes to advancing and empowering lives of Native people.

Use your power to vote and re-elect Cherrah Quiett for Tulsa District, Seat B. MVTO! For more information please check out www.facebook.com/cquiett, call (918) 381-2234 or e-mail tulsacreek@aol.com.

Seat B
Name: Carolyn Burgess-Billy
Clan: Wotko (Racoon)
Age: 49
Church: Celebration Church
Family: parents were Woodrow Burgess and Rhoda Hicks Burgess; Grandparents were James and Elsie
West Burgess and Robert and Lena Heneha Hicks; Husband, David Leslie Billy.
Education: Associates in Business Management at St. Gregory's University in Tulsa, OK. I am now in my junior year working on my Bachelor's in Administrative Leadership at the University of Oklahoma in Tulsa, OK
Experience: My experience extends to listening and helping people resolve issues on a daily basis. I have worked for State Farm Insurance for 5 years in the Regional Office as an Underwriting Service Assistant and during the past year have played a key role in bringing awareness, education and resources to the employees about the Native American culture and traditions.

"In my heart, I see the need for change. The kind of change that will put our Creek citizens on the same level as other tribes."

TULSA DISTRICT continued

Seat D (Incumbent)
Name: Sam Alexander
Clan: Eco (Deer)
Church: Montesoma Indian Baptist
Tribal Town: Thlopthlocco
Family: Married to Sharon Alexander, daughters, Saamantha, Meagan, and Christy; Grand Children Cambria and Jordan.

Education: Certified Public Accountant since 1979

Experience: "I became the first confirmed tax commissioner in 1993 and enjoyed a robust three year term that included a lawsuit with Oklahoma over tobacco compacts. We brought in tribal car tags during my term." Alexander had been on the GOAB board during a period in tribal history when the bingo halls were turned into casinos. "After serving two terms, there are more obstacles facing the MCN that require business expertise and experience. Because I've been a CPA since 1979, I am blessed to be able to walk comfortably in the financial business world." Financial experience combined with collaborative effort between senior tribal executives, was helpful in acquiring financing for the new River Spirit Casino according to Alexander.

Through representation of the Tulsa District, Alexander has an understanding of Tulsa City Officials, and the City's relationship with the tribe. Alexander was influenced by his father and Uncle as little boy, both of whom were heavily involved in the tribal government in the 1950s He takes pride in posing difficult questions and considers it a "tremendous honor to serve."

Seat F (Incumbent)
Name: Kara Medina
Tribal Town / Ceremonial Ground: New Tulsa
Church: Elwood Baptist Church- Glenpool, Okla.

Education: Associate of Arts in English from TCC; Bachelor of Arts in American Studies and English from OSU-Tulsa

Seat F
Name: Rick Wilde
Family: Son of the late Kathryn Nell Bible Wilde Jones and the Grandson of the late Dave Bible

Education: Associate Degree from Tulsa Community College, attended Northeastern State College, Certified Paralegal

Experience: Previous Chairperson of the Tulsa Creek Indian Community, Previous Vice-Chairperson of the Tulsa Creek Indian Community, Tulsa District Representative to the Creek Nation Constitutional Convention, Viet Nam Era veteran. I pledge accountability, responsibility and transparency to the Muscogee (Creek) members. As your Seat F candidate, I request your input on how, together, we can make our Muscogee (Creek) Nation stronger. Please contact me to share your views about the state of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

"Within the next few months, members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will be given the opportunity to help create a better future for our nation through the election process. Overall, I feel that the spirit and leadership of our Nation is currently well recognized and, when elected, I will continue this constructive approach by serving the Tulsa District first and foremost. To accomplish this, I will strive to enhance the constitutional rights of our people with every official act. In addition, I will legislate for increased educational funding and increased health care for our Nation."

E-mail: richard_wilde@yahoo.com

Seat F
Name: Carol McHenry-Williams
Age: 50
Clan: Wotko (Racoon)
Tribal Town: Locvpokv
Church: Lexington Road Family Worship Center
Family: Mother Gladys Bland McHenry and Father Lewis Tuskonah McHenry, Maternal grandparents Jeanetta Haikey Bland and Louis D., great grandfather Ben B. Haikey, paternal grandparents Jess J. McHenry and Louise Smith of Broken Arrow.

Married to Ron Williams for 47 years with four children Rhanna Simmons of Tulsa OK , Karrie Phillips of Sapulpa OK, Candy Lillig of Broken Arrow OK and Shawn Williams of Grand Rapids, MI. We are blessed with 16 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren who richly bless our lives.

Education: Associate Degree in Computer Programming from Tulsa Junior College

Experience: I have 10 years experience as a Computer Software System Analyst. I retired from the Williams Companies after 20 years of service in 1997. Since then I have worked as a customer service representative for eight years with AT&T.

"Over the years my family has benefited from the many programs offered by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and I would like an opportunity to give back to the Muscogee people by being a National Council Representative. I have excellent research and analytical skills with a strong math background. There are many issues facing our Muscogee (Creek) Nation which will have far reaching effects in the future and I would like to be a part of the exciting future ahead for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. My priorities will be the Tulsa/Glenpool communities but I want to be accountable and fair to all Muscogee (Creek) citizens. Please consider me when you cast your ballot for National Council Seat F for the Tulsa/Glenpool District September 19 and November 7, 2009."

E-mail: katcvwms@yahoo.com

TUKVPVTCE DISTRICT

Seat B (Incumbent) - Unappossed
Name: Thomas Yahola

Family: Wife, Phyllis (Sloan) Yahola; six daughters; two sons; parents are the late Lyman and Bertha (Taylor) Yahola

No Information Submitted

FAMILY MEMBERS OF MUSCOGEE (CREEK) SOLDIERS KILLED IN ACTION

It is requested that family members of Muscogee (Creek) soldiers Killed In Action during World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam kindly contact the Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO) to provide the following:

- **Name of Muscogee (Creek) Soldier**
- **Verification of Citizenship**
- **Killed In Action Verification**
- **Birth Date**
- **Service Branch**
- **Killed In Action Date**

The Requested purpose of this information is to publicly honor and recognize our tribal soldiers in the Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO) Memorial Courtyard.

Please contact:
Shawn Taryole • (918) 732-7745 • staryole@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
Ken Davis • (918) 732-7739 • kendavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Community Calendar

• Local Farmers' Market

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee Farmers' Market is featured every Friday from 8 a.m - 2 p.m.

Directions: Take Highway 75 to Okmulgee, OK, and turn west on 6th Street. The Okmulgee Farmers' Market is located on the square downtown, on the west lawn of the Creek Council House Museum. The address is 100 West 6th Street.

For more information, please contact MFSI at (918) 756-5915.

• "Warm Mvskoke Welcome" set for Sept. 21

OKMULGEE — A "Warm Mvskoke Welcome" for the Trail of Tears Remembrance Motorcycle Ride arriving from Chattanooga, Tenn., will be held at the Creek Council House Museum lawn at 3:30 p.m., on Monday, Sept. 21.

2009 will mark the fifth year riders have stopped in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the 16th year the riders have been participating in the event.

Volunteers are needed and appreciated. For more information, please contact Vicky Karhu at MFSI by phone at (918) 756-5915.

• Fourth annual Fall Festival Pageant

OKEMAH — The Fourth Annual Fall Pageant will be taking place on October 1, 2009. The Pageant will be held at 7:00 pm in the Okemah High School Auditorium.

The pageant will consist of five divisions such as Miss Fall Festival (16-18, Junior Miss (13-15), Little Miss (10-12), Tiny Miss (6-9) and Wee Miss (3-5).

Deadlines for entry are quickly approaching, all information must be submitted by Sept. 18, 2009. Required documentation includes proof of Creek Citizenship.

Pageant Packet's can be picked up at: Okemah Indian Community 1100 S. Woody Guthrie, Okemah & or by mail or fax

For more info contact: Okemah Indian Community 918-623-9227 or 918-623-9225.

Community Calendar

• OSU Native American Student Association Annual Pow Wow

PAYNE COUNTY — On Saturday, Oct. 3, the OSU Native American Student Association will be hosting their annual Pow Wow at the Payne County Fairgrounds and Expo Center, located three miles east of Perkins Road on Highway 51 (6th St.).

The program schedule is as follows: 12 p.m.-gourd dance, 4:30p.m.-supper break, 5:30p.m.-gourd dance, 6:30p.m.-grand entry with closing at 11 p.m.

This is a great opportunity to learn about an aspect of the Native American culture and the event is open to the public. There will be food, arts and crafts vendors.

For more information contact Robin Williams by phone at (405) 477-0401 or by e-mail at robin.starr.williams@okstate.edu.

• Challenge Bowl 2010 “Planting the Long Rooted Grass”

OKMULGEE—It’s that time of year again. Participants are urged to stay informed on some of the important dates relative to the 09-10 Challenge. The registration deadline is set for January 8, 2010.

All volunteers are urged to fit volunteer training into their schedules. The training is set for February 4, 2010. The competitions are set for the month of February.

Elementary competition will kick off the event on Feb. 11, 2010, followed by Middle School competition on Feb. 18. High School Challenge Bowl Competition will take place on Feb. 25.

Challenge Bowl will be moving to a new location. The competition will take place at Burbank Schools, located at 209 S. Lakewood Dr., in Tulsa.

Preparatory materials for the competition, such as rule books and study materials can be downloaded from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Web-site. Just access www. muscogeenation-nsn.gov and look for Challenge Bowl in the bulletin.

For more information contact Leona Kelley, by phone at (918) 732-7842, fax (918) 732-7844 or e-mail: lkelley@muscogeenation-nsn.com

District Court filings from March 1, 2009 through March 31, 2009 (continued from Page 2)

MCN v. Michael Baker	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning and Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Brian Cox	Ct. 1: No Driver’s License
MCN v. Curtis Wilson	Ct. 1: Driving while License Suspended
MCN v. Brian Woodard	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Tonya Whittington	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Antonio Arbarca	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Antonio Arbarca	Ct. 1: No Driver’s License
MCN v. Dwayne Ray	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Luke Cavalier	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Luke Cavalier	Ct. 1: Driving Under Suspension
MCN v. Elton Smith	Ct. 1: Duties in Event of Accident
MCN v. Dorinda Hill	Ct. 1: No Driver’s License
MCN v. Debra Beeks	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Richard Thompson	Ct. 1: Operating in Manner Not Reasonable and Proper
MCN v. Alberto Sanchez	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Alberto Sanchez	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning and Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Lavada Shaw	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Kerry Raymond	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Steven Wood	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Guadalupe Alvarado	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Guadalupe Alvarado	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Aaron Tiger	Ct. 1: No Driver’s License
MCN v. Jason Holmes	Ct. 1: Driving while License Suspended
MCN v. Jamie Martin	Ct. 1: Driving while License Suspended
MCN v. Donald Treat	Ct. 1: Trespassing
MCN v. Anthony Fizer	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Anthony Fizer	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Santiago Martinez	Ct. 1: No Driver’s License
MCN v. Santiago Martinez	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Brent Sinclair	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Brent Sinclair	Ct. 1: DUR
MCN v. A.A. (minor)	Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
MCN v. Aaron Perry	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Aaron Perry	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Aaron Perry	Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
MCN v. Nikki Hader	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Greg Anthony	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Gregory Kilgore	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning and Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Khai Tran	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Jerry Allen	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Jerry Allen	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning and Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Richard Myrick	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Richard Myrick	Ct. 1: Failure to Drive on Right side of Roadway
MCN v. Carl Boyd	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning and Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Barry Cook	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Timothy Johns	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Timothy Johns	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Debra Ott	Ct. 1: Open Receptacle Containing Alcoholic Beverage
MCN v. Maseanae Robinson	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Maseanae Robinson	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Maseanae Robinson	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning and Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Demario Hanson	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Demario Hanson	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Demario Hanson	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning and Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Shane Slimp	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Shane Slimp	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Joe Fitzer	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Megan Connor	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Lisa Johnson	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Lisa Johnson	Ct. 1: DUR
MCN v. Phillip Colson	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Kathy Ashmore	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Anita Mallard	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. John Martinez	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning and Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. John Martinez	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Terri Colbaugh	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Lawrence Roberts	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning, and Stopping without Regard to Safety

The District Court filings from April 1, 2009 through April 30, 2009 are as follows:

Civil:

K. Tim Mount v. Renee Jones	Small Claims
Larry Crabtree v. Victoria Paddock	Petition
Tracie Powell v. Charlie James	Petition
Jimmy Hicks Jr. v. Pilar Smith	Petition
Saber Acceptance v. Galen Cloud	Foreign Judgment
C. Doss Painting, LLC v. Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise, an economic enterprise created by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Inddian Tribe under its ordinances; and Muscogee (Creek) Nation; and Westchester Fire Insurance Company	Petition
Ramona Fish	Name Change
World Acceptance Corp. v. Johnny Morgan	Small Claims
Discover Bank Card v. Jill Barnett aka Marks	Foreign Judgment
David Moffer	Name Change
Robert Tofpi v. Chris Natsaway	Petition
OK Financial Services v. Ray Bannister	Small Claims
MCN v. Five Hundred Seventy-nine dollars and no/100 ($579.00) chips	Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture
Hughes Financial Group v. Alisha Sanders	Foreign Judgment
Rent A Center v. Brandon Emerson	Foreign Judgment

Divorce:

Teresa Rathbone v. Stephen Rathbone	Divorce
Daniel Campbell v. Rachael Campbell	Divorce
Ben Watashe v. Paula Watashe	Divorce
Scott Jackson v. Debbie Jackson	Divorce
Dawna James v. Patrick James	Divorce
Manuel Britt v. Debbie Buck	Divorce
William Lee v. Dana Lee	Divorce
William Crabtree v. Melinda Crabtree	Divorce
Johnny Morgan v. Mia Nimsey	Divorce

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex rel., Shandra Bumgarner v. Kenneth Bumgarner	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Amanda Stamper v. Dustin Stamper	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Joseph O’Brien v. Andrea O’Brien	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Deshonna Ward v. Richard Carolina	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Joseph Newell v. Robbin Hayes	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Courtney Smith v. Douglas Harding Jr.	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Amanda Bowman v. Benjamin Harjo	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Pamela Dodd v. John Lindsey	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Leona Kelley v. Vince Proctor	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Lanita Parks v. William Skinner Jr.	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Billy Warrior v. Latreva Warrior	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Penny Mounger v. Timothy Stephens	Child Support

Ex-Parte:

Ashley Berryhill v. Daryl Canard	Ex-Parte
Corena Roastingbear v. Marcus Girty	Ex-Parte
Catherine Geddings v. Bryan Bruner	Ex-Parte
Betty Beaver v. Betty and Stanley Harjo & Mannie Lee-Smith	Ex-Parte
Johnnie Branson v. Nicklous Froehlich	Ex-Parte

Criminal Felonies:

MCN v. Dustin Barr	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
MCN v. Morris Lewis	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
MCN v. Kimberly Boggs	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Wilson Deere	Ct. 1: Embezzlement

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

Annual Citizens' Diabetes Awareness Summit

HEALTH - A6

Transit Authority passes competition

PROGRAMS/ NOTICES - A7

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2009
Volume 39, Issue 9
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www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

Chief vs. Communities continues

• Testimony from auditors, employees heard

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Pictured above is Dave Jansen who testified as an expert witness for the plaintiff at the beginning of Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court case CV 2009-33. His testimony in the proceedings lend insight into forensic audits conducted

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CV 2009 - 33

PART II

OKMULGEE — After completion of audit reports CV-2009- 33 resumed on Aug. 24. The defendants in the case, six of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Indian communities had requested more time to review the reports, which were completed and made available in the beginning of August. It is those reports and the information obtained from witness' testimony, which have been the subject of much of the questioning in these proceedings.

Day one of the session began with the qualification of plaintiff's expert witness David Jansen, CFE. Jansen in conjunction with Watashe & Assoc. LLC conducted the forensic audits of the communities beginning in May 2009.

SEE AUDITS - A4

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Dental Clinic hosts grand opening

• Okemah facility adds state-of-the-art dental clinic

MNN/*Mallory Bible*

Pictured above from left to right are (back row) Executive Director Claude Sumner, Assistant to Second Chief David Dunson, Rhonda Beaver, Chief of Staff Mike Flud and (front row) Reps. Terrie Anderson, Shirlene Ade, Travis Scott, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Speaker Thomas Yahola, Reps. Lena Wind, Steve Bruner, Roger Barnett, Bill Fife and MCN PR Manager Thompson Gouge.

by Ruth Bible
Cultural Reporter

OKEMAH — The Okemah Dental Clinic hosted the grand opening on Wednesday, Aug. 19, 2009. Administrator of the Okemah Health Facility Bert Robison welcomed those in attendance including Muscogee (Creek) National Council as well as members of the Executive Branch Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Chief of Staff Mike Flud, Executive Director Claude Sumner, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Assistant to Second Chief David Dunson, Secretary of the Nation, Kevin Dellinger. Health Administration Rep. Rhonda Beaver, Sapulpa HSA Seneca Smith, Coweta HSA Russell Torbett, Okmulgee HSA Debra Isham were also present. The facility has six dental station chairs, two operatory areas, an on-site lab, state-of-the-art equipment, an X-ray room and a patient consultation room. Vicki Harless will serve as the facility's dentist at the clinic, located at 1509 Columbia in Okemah.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (918) 623-3016 or toll free: (800) 219-9458, extension 7200 Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

National Council Primary Election set for Sept. 19

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Primary Elections will be held Saturday, Sept. 19 at various voting precincts throughout the Nation's boundaries. A General Election will follow on Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009.

There are 23 candidates filing for the two-year, open seats B, D and F, for each of the eight districts within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

For more information or to locate the nearest polling location, please contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board at (918) 732-7684.

Primary elections are set for Sept. 19 with the general election following on Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009.

"Warm Mvskoke Welcome" planned for Trail of Tears Remembrance Ride

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — On Monday, Sept. 21, 2009, at 3:30 p.m., bikers with the Trail of Tears Remembrance Ride will storm the streets of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to be greeted with a 'Warm Mvskoke Welcome' from citizens, veterans and tribal officials along with local supporters of the Okmulgee community.

Each year, these riders travel from the ancestral homelands of the Muscogee in the southeast U.S., beginning in Chatanooga, Tenn., to Okmulgee, Okla., where they honor those whose lives were sacrificed on the Trail of Tears and their descendants now living in the state.

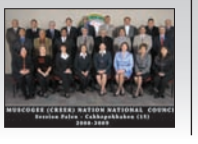
For 2009, the "Warm Mvskoke Welcome" Committee has again planned for the arrival of the riders with entertainment, food and fun. There will also be a veteran welcome. For more information, please contact Vicky Karhu at (918) 756-5915.

EXECUTIVE A2

Chief Ellis' response to Rep. Alexander's statements regarding travel expenses

LEGISLATIVE A3

National Council minutes



ADVERTISEMENT A4

Forensic Audit Reports now available

Get the facts!
FORENSIC AUDIT REPORTS of the Bristow, Checotah, Duck Creek, Eufaula, Holdenville & Okemah Indian Communities

BUSINESS/GAMING A5

Chief calls out Tulsa city officials on double standard

PROGRAMS/NOTICES A7

Personnel weight loss challenge

EDUCATION A8

Summer Camps empower Native youth

Communications Department - P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447

Muscogee Nation News
STAFF
Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
Senior Writer - Angel Ellis
Feature Writer - Gerald Wofford
Sports Writer - Jason Salsman
Reporter - Starla Bush
Reporter - Joshua Slane
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Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Letter to the Editor

Invitation to pow-wow

EL RENO — Bad decisions have placed about 50 Native American men at the Federal Correctional Institution at El Reno, Okla. While being incarcerated, many of these men have chosen to make improvements in their lives emotionally, physically and spiritually.

Nine brothers completed a Native American self-help program that depicts different elements of addiction and situations that effect Native Americans today. It was the first Native American-based program at El Reno. It is called P.I.P.E.S. (people in prison entering sobriety). We also have sweat lodge ceremonies, pipe ceremonies, and talking circles. Every December we have our Spiritual Run honoring our ancestors.

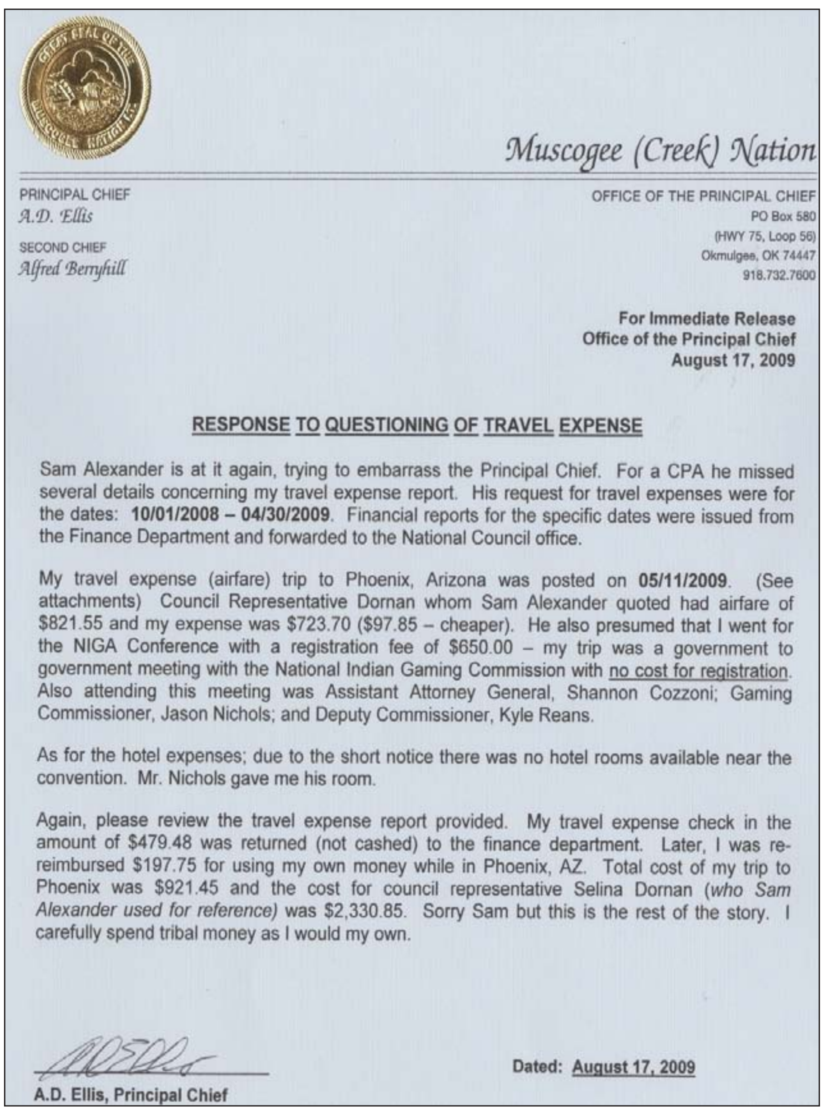
Although we are not proud of where we are or what we have done, we are very proud of the accomplishments we have achieved. We are NOT LOST CAUSES!! By making these improvements we feel that the next time we find ourselves at a crossroad, we will be able to make the right decisions.

The highlight of our year is the annual pow-wow which will be held September 19, 2009. Last year, we had 50 Native American inmates present and 16 outside guests. This year, we hope to have 50 guests. This gives us an opportunity to show our people, that we are sorry for our mistakes and we are making improvements to our lives.

Our pow-wow is conducted in the same format as outside pow-wows and will include: grand entry, dancing, singing, storytelling, give-a ways, crowning a princess (from outside guests) and a ceremonial meal.

For more information, please write to: Chaplain Thayer FCI-ERE P.O. Box 1000 El Reno, OK 73036. I know the Creator will richly bless you for sharing this day with us.

Chief Ellis responds to statements regarding travel expense reports made by Rep. Alexander



Muscogee (Creek) Nation

PRINCIPAL CHIEF
A.D. Ellis
SECOND CHIEF
Alfred Berryhill

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF
PO Box 580
(HWY 75, Loop 56)
Okmulgee, OK 74447
918.732.7600

For Immediate Release
Office of the Principal Chief
August 17, 2009

RESPONSE TO QUESTIONING OF TRAVEL EXPENSE

Sam Alexander is at it again, trying to embarrass the Principal Chief. For a CPA he missed several details concerning my travel expense report. His request for travel expenses were for the dates: **10/01/2008 – 04/30/2009**. Financial reports for the specific dates were issued from the Finance Department and forwarded to the National Council office.

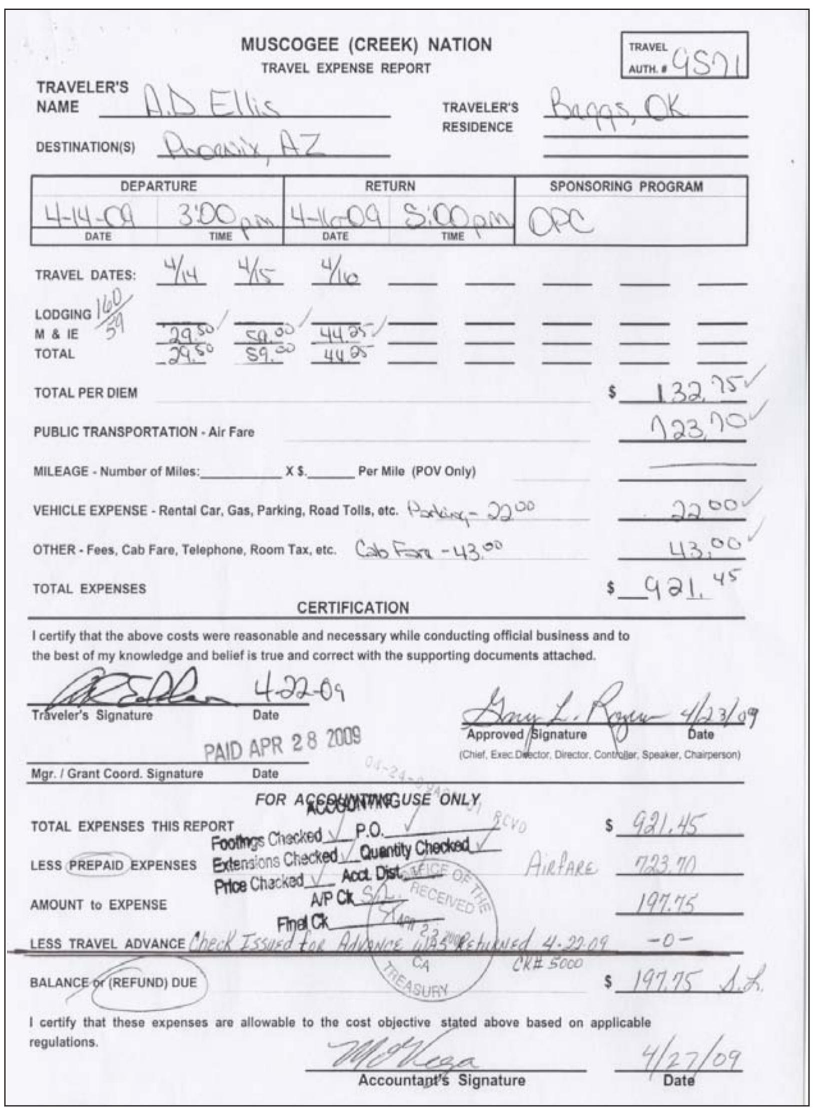
My travel expense (airfare) trip to Phoenix, Arizona was posted on **05/11/2009**. (See attachments) Council Representative Dornan whom Sam Alexander quoted had airfare of $821.55 and my expense was $723.70 ($97.85 – cheaper). He also presumed that I went for the NIGA Conference with a registration fee of $650.00 – my trip was a government to government meeting with the National Indian Gaming Commission with no cost for registration. Also attending this meeting was Assistant Attorney General, Shannon Cozzoni; Gaming Commissioner, Jason Nichols; and Deputy Commissioner, Kyle Reans.

As for the hotel expenses; due to the short notice there was no hotel rooms available near the convention. Mr. Nichols gave me his room.

Again, please review the travel expense report provided. My travel expense check in the amount of $479.48 was returned (not cashed) to the finance department. Later, I was re-reimbursed $197.75 for using my own money while in Phoenix, AZ. Total cost of my trip to Phoenix was $921.45 and the cost for council representative Selina Dornan (*who Sam Alexander used for reference)* was $2,330.85. Sorry Sam but this is the rest of the story. I carefully spend tribal money as I would my own.

Dated: August 17, 2009

A.D. Ellis, Principal Chief



MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
TRAVEL EXPENSE REPORT

TRAVEL AUTH. # 9571
TRAVELER'S NAME A.D. Ellis
TRAVELER'S RESIDENCE Beggs, OK
DESTINATION(S) Phoenix, AZ

DEPARTURE DATE	DEPARTURE TIME	RETURN DATE	RETURN TIME	SPONSORING PROGRAM
4-14-09	3:00 pm	4-16-09	5:00 pm	OPC

TRAVEL DATES:	4/14	4/15	4/16
LODGING 160/59			
M & IE	29.50	59.00	44.25
TOTAL	29.50	59.00	44.25

TOTAL PER DIEM $ 132.75
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION - Air Fare 723.70
MILEAGE - Number of Miles: ______ X $. ______ Per Mile (POV Only)
VEHICLE EXPENSE - Rental Car, Gas, Parking, Road Tolls, etc. Parking - 22.00 22.00
OTHER - Fees, Cab Fare, Telephone, Room Tax, etc. Cab Fare - 43.00 43.00
TOTAL EXPENSES $ 921.45

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the above costs were reasonable and necessary while conducting official business and to the best of my knowledge and belief is true and correct with the supporting documents attached.

Traveler's Signature 4-22-09 Date
Approved Signature Gary L. Rogers 4/23/09 Date
(Chief, Exec Director, Director, Controller, Speaker, Chairperson)

PAID APR 28 2009

Mgr. / Grant Coord. Signature Date

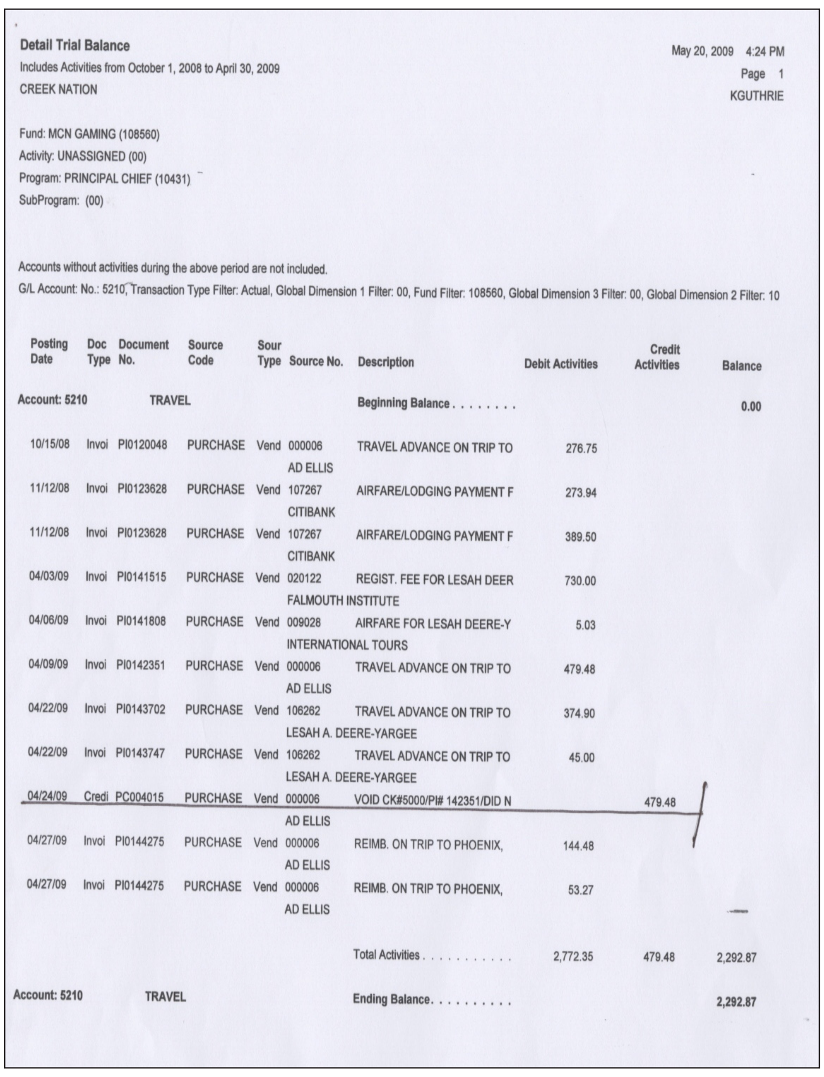
FOR ACCOUNTING USE ONLY

TOTAL EXPENSES THIS REPORT $ 921.45
Footings Checked ✓ P.O. ✓
Extensions Checked ✓ Quantity Checked ✓
Price Checked ✓ Acct. Dist.
A/P Ck
Final Ck
LESS PREPAID EXPENSES AirFare 723.70
AMOUNT to EXPENSE 197.75
LESS TRAVEL ADVANCE Check Issued for Advance was Returned 4-22-09 CK# 5000 -0-
BALANCE or (REFUND) DUE $ 197.75

OFFICE OF THE TREASURY RECEIVED APR 23 2009 CA

I certify that these expenses are allowable to the cost objective stated above based on applicable regulations.

Accountant's Signature 4/27/09 Date



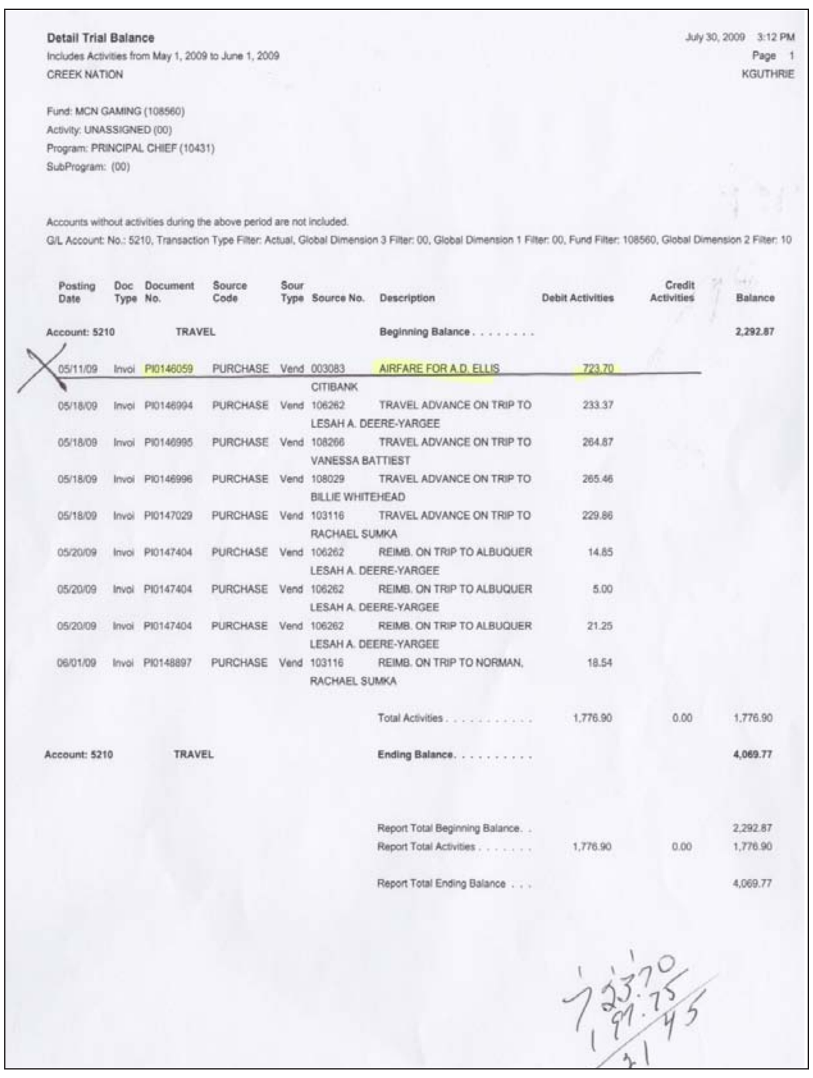
Detail Trial Balance
Includes Activities from October 1, 2008 to April 30, 2009
CREEK NATION

May 20, 2009 4:24 PM
Page 1
KGUTHRIE

Fund: MCN GAMING (108560)
Activity: UNASSIGNED (00)
Program: PRINCIPAL CHIEF (10431)
SubProgram: (00)

Accounts without activities during the above period are not included.
G/L Account: No.: 5210, Transaction Type Filter: Actual, Global Dimension 1 Filter: 00, Fund Filter: 108560, Global Dimension 3 Filter: 00, Global Dimension 2 Filter: 10

Posting Date	Doc Type	Document No.	Source Code	Sour Type	Source No.	Description	Debit Activities	Credit Activities	Balance
Account: 5210		TRAVEL				Beginning Balance			0.00
10/15/08	Invoi	PI0120048	PURCHASE	Vend	000006 AD ELLIS	TRAVEL ADVANCE ON TRIP TO	276.75		
11/12/08	Invoi	PI0123628	PURCHASE	Vend	107267 CITIBANK	AIRFARE/LODGING PAYMENT F	273.94		
11/12/08	Invoi	PI0123628	PURCHASE	Vend	107267 CITIBANK	AIRFARE/LODGING PAYMENT F	389.50		
04/03/09	Invoi	PI0141515	PURCHASE	Vend	020122 FALMOUTH INSTITUTE	REGIST. FEE FOR LESAH DEER	730.00		
04/06/09	Invoi	PI0141808	PURCHASE	Vend	009028 INTERNATIONAL TOURS	AIRFARE FOR LESAH DEERE-Y	5.03		
04/09/09	Invoi	PI0142351	PURCHASE	Vend	000006 AD ELLIS	TRAVEL ADVANCE ON TRIP TO	479.48		
04/22/09	Invoi	PI0143702	PURCHASE	Vend	106262 LESAH A. DEERE-YARGEE	TRAVEL ADVANCE ON TRIP TO	374.90		
04/22/09	Invoi	PI0143747	PURCHASE	Vend	106262 LESAH A. DEERE-YARGEE	TRAVEL ADVANCE ON TRIP TO	45.00		
04/24/09	Credi	PC004015	PURCHASE	Vend	000006 AD ELLIS	VOID CK#5000/PI# 142351/DID N		479.48	
04/27/09	Invoi	PI0144275	PURCHASE	Vend	000006 AD ELLIS	REIMB. ON TRIP TO PHOENIX,	144.48		
04/27/09	Invoi	PI0144275	PURCHASE	Vend	000006 AD ELLIS	REIMB. ON TRIP TO PHOENIX,	53.27		
						Total Activities	2,772.35	479.48	2,292.87
Account: 5210		TRAVEL				Ending Balance.			2,292.87



Detail Trial Balance
Includes Activities from May 1, 2009 to June 1, 2009
CREEK NATION

July 30, 2009 3:12 PM
Page 1
KGUTHRIE

Fund: MCN GAMING (108560)
Activity: UNASSIGNED (00)
Program: PRINCIPAL CHIEF (10431)
SubProgram: (00)

Accounts without activities during the above period are not included.
G/L Account: No.: 5210, Transaction Type Filter: Actual, Global Dimension 3 Filter: 00, Global Dimension 1 Filter: 00, Fund Filter: 108560, Global Dimension 2 Filter: 10

Posting Date	Doc Type	Document No.	Source Code	Sour Type	Source No.	Description	Debit Activities	Credit Activities	Balance
Account: 5210		TRAVEL				Beginning Balance			2,292.87
05/11/09	Invoi	PI0146059	PURCHASE	Vend	003083 CITIBANK	AIRFARE FOR A.D. ELLIS	723.70		
05/18/09	Invoi	PI0146994	PURCHASE	Vend	106262 LESAH A. DEERE-YARGEE	TRAVEL ADVANCE ON TRIP TO	233.37		
05/18/09	Invoi	PI0146995	PURCHASE	Vend	108266 VANESSA BATTIEST	TRAVEL ADVANCE ON TRIP TO	264.87		
05/18/09	Invoi	PI0146996	PURCHASE	Vend	108029 BILLIE WHITEHEAD	TRAVEL ADVANCE ON TRIP TO	265.46		
05/18/09	Invoi	PI0147029	PURCHASE	Vend	103116 RACHAEL SUMKA	TRAVEL ADVANCE ON TRIP TO	229.86		
05/20/09	Invoi	PI0147404	PURCHASE	Vend	106262 LESAH A. DEERE-YARGEE	REIMB. ON TRIP TO ALBUQUER	14.85		
05/20/09	Invoi	PI0147404	PURCHASE	Vend	106262 LESAH A. DEERE-YARGEE	REIMB. ON TRIP TO ALBUQUER	5.00		
05/20/09	Invoi	PI0147404	PURCHASE	Vend	106262 LESAH A. DEERE-YARGEE	REIMB. ON TRIP TO ALBUQUER	21.25		
06/01/09	Invoi	PI0148897	PURCHASE	Vend	103116 RACHAEL SUMKA	REIMB. ON TRIP TO NORMAN,	18.54		
						Total Activities	1,776.90	0.00	1,776.90
Account: 5210		TRAVEL				Ending Balance.			4,069.77
						Report Total Beginning Balance. .			2,292.87
						Report Total Activities	1,776.90	0.00	1,776.90
						Report Total Ending Balance . . .			4,069.77

723.70
197.75
921.45

The District Court filings from April 1, 2009 through April 30, 2009 are as follows (continued to page A4):

Traffic:

MCN v. Stacy Hulse	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Stacy Hulsa	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Markne Evans	Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
MCN v. Homer Barrett	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Kasey Rosson	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
MCN v. Kasey Rosson	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning, Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Kasey Rosson	Ct. 1: No Seat Belt
MCN v. James Randy	Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
MCN v. Kevin Canady	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Kevin Canady	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Kevin Canady	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. William McHenry	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. William McHenry	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Amanda Carlock	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Cory Mamoney	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Henry McBride	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Michael Oakley	Ct. 1: DUR
MCN v. Jimmy Sheridan	Ct. 1: Trespassing
MCN v. Donald Duchak	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Logan Burdick	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Derrick Brooks	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Nichols Blackburn	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Nichols Blackburn	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Brittney Fisher	Ct. 1: Driving with no License
MCN v. Russell Dollarhide	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Wesley Stonebarger	Ct. 1: Driving while License Suspended
MCN v. Brandy Boatman	Ct. 1: No Tag
MCN v. John Marshall	Ct. 1: DUS

The District Court filings from May 1, 2009 through May 30, 2009 are as follows:

Civil:

Shaunday Little v. Jacob Leach	Petition
Shaunday Little v. Elvin Hunt	Petition
Central State Finance v. Ruby Norton	Small Claims
Central State Finance v. Toni Beaver	Small Claims
Ky'Shawnda Brown v. Acardio Lee	Petition
United Furniture v. Laren Richards	Petition
Daryl Canard v. Ashley Berryhill	Petition
Paul Thompson v. Patricia Comley	Petition
National Quik Cash v. Rena Patterson	Small Claims
Southcrest Hospital L.L.C., v. Tara Redbird	Foreign Judgment
Banner Finance v. Amber Dearman	Small Claims
Mike Bailey Motors v. Sherry Garrett	Foreign Judgment
Muskogee Federal Credit Union v. Roger Posey	Foreign Judgment
Royal Finance v. Edania Fisher	Small Claims
Mary Jane Williams	Name Change
Car-Mart of Sapulpa v. Kimber & Mike Perry	Foreign Judgment
Daniell Morgan v. Erick Postoak	Petition
Equishare Credit Union v. Anna Hart	Foreign Judgment
Central Ohio Credit Corp. v. Jeremy Jones	Foreign Judgment

Divorce:

Crystal Crawford v. Lapinion Crawford III	Divorce
Wilma Guest v. Sean Guest	Divorce
Cherri Guinn v. Luster Guinn	Divorce
Rachael Panther v. Michael Panther	Divorce
Vonda York v. Vernon York	Divorce
Jamie Sheen v. Eldon Sheen	Divorce
Vanessa Dodson v. Mark Dodson	Divorce
Ramona Graham v. David Graham	Divorce
Brooke McNeely v. Jeremy McNeely	Divorce
Link Leftwich v. Kimberly Leftwich	Divorce
Cymber Power v. Chris Campbell	Divorce
Amber Williams v. William Williams Jr.	Divorce
Danetta Jamison v. Jermaine Jamison	Divorce
Stephanie Poulsen v. Patrick Poulson	Divorce

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex rel., Angela Harris v. Jed Hightower	Child Support
Susan Morisset v. OCSE, ex rel., Dale Morisset	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Debra Binning v. Justin Binning	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Jennifer Benadum v. Kevin Benadum	Child Support

Ex-Parte:

Ronnie Burnside v. Jacqueline Munds	Ex-Parte
Jonell Byrd v. Rodney James Jr.	Ex-Parte
Jamie Frazier v. Charles Taylor	Ex-Parte
Geri Brown v. Benjamin McClellan Jr.	Ex-Parte

Criminal Felonies:

MCN v. Vergel Bautista	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
MCN v. Montague McGirt	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Montague McGirt	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Raychel Foster	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Austin Mullens	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Raychel Foster	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Thomas Mack	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE **JULY 25, QUARTERLY SESSION**.

JULY 25, QUARTERLY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVE **CHERRAH QUIETT** WAS RUNNING LATE. REPRESENTATIVE **SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN** LEFT AT HER DISCRETION.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- MOTION TO MOVE NCA 09-120 TO TOP OF THE AGENDA (ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED).

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-120, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE UNPAID FUNERAL EXPENSES OF A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN SPONSOR: **THOMAS YAHOLA** ($2,400.00)

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-062, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A MINING LEASE INDIAN LANDS AGREEMENT (FOR MINERAL OTHER THAN OIL AND GAS) SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) TR 09-063, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE INNOVATION GROUP TO UPDATE THEIR LAST FEASIBILITY STUDY (AUGUST 2008) REGARDING PHASE II OF THE PROJECT KNOWN AS RIVER SPIRIT CASINO SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (22-2-0) TR 09-064, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REPEALING TR 09-012 (A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING WIRELESS SERVICE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND VERIZON WIRELESS FOR CELLULAR PHONES FOR THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES AND STAFF) SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT**

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **RON CLEGHORN** AND **KARA MEDINA**.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) TR 09-065, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION PROVIDING FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A TRIBAL COMMUNITY HIGHER EDUCATION INFRA-STRUCTURE PROJECT THROUGH HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT TO BE CONSTRUCTED ON TRIBAL LANDS SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **J. GREENE; S. ADE; J. JENNINGS; D. PROCTOR**

- MOTION TO MOVE NCA 09-1254 UP THE AGENDA (ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED).

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-1-0) NCA 09-125, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A DONATION TO THE DEPEW VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT SPONSOR: **DAVID HILL** ($2,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) TR 09-066, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE BROKEN ARROW HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO DISPLAY (DIGITAL COPY) THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SEAL AND PHOTO OF THE SESSION PALEN-OSTOHKAKEN MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL IN THE BROKEN ARROW TRIBAL TOWN EXHIBIT LOCATED IN THE NEW BROKEN ARROW MUSEUM SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) TR 09-067, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION PROTESTING THE DEMOLITION OF SACRED BURIAL GROUNDS BEHIND THE OXFORD EXCHANGE IN CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA AND CALLING FOR THE PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF THIS SITE PURSUANT TO THE NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION AND REPATRIATION ACT SPONSOR: **KARA MEDINA**; CO-SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION NATIONAL COUNCIL
Session Palen - Cahkepohkaken (15)
2008-2009

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) TR 09-069, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF HEALTH TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE FISCAL YEAR 2010 JOINT VENTURE CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM WITH THE INDIAN HEALTH FACILITY LOCATED IN EUFAULA, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **A. JONES III; D. PROCTOR; P. WILLITS; K. MEDINA; R. CLEGHORN; T. ANDERSON**

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-1-0) NCA 09-040, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ENACTING A NEW LAW GOVERNING AND ESTABLISHING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION GREEN GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE, CODIFYING SUCH LAW IN TITLE 40 "GREEN GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE" OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: **TERRIE ANDERSON**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **S. JAYNE-DORNAN; P. WILLITS**

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **RON CLEGHORN**.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-118, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET MODIFICATION FOR THE REALTY DEPARTMENT SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-1-0) NCA 09-119, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A DONATION TO THE BEDOUIN SHRINE ORGANIZATION IN MUSKOGEE, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **PETE BEAVER**; CO-SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE** ($25,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-121, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS AWARDED FROM A UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT GRANT TO THE DIVISION OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS' INTEGRATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANNING (IRMP_DEVELOPMENT PROJECT) SPONSOR: **CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS** ($49,580.00)

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (21-3-0) NCA 09-122, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR A BRONZE STATUE OF **ERNEST CHILDERS** TO BE PLACED IN FRONT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION VETERANS BUILDING SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **D. HILL; S. ALEXANDER; P. WILLITS; T. SCOTT; A. JONES III; J. GREENE; S. JAYNE-DORNAN; D. PROCTOR; R. HUFFT** ($45,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVES VOTING NO WERE: **LENA WIND, TERRIE ANDERSON** AND **KARA MEDINA**.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (23-1-0) NCA 09-123, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR TWO YOUNG TRIBAL CITIZENS TO ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE IN THE 2009 AAU JUNIOR OLYMPIC GAMES AUGUST 3-7 IN DES MOINES, IOWA SPONSOR: **DAVID NICHOLS** ($375.00)

REPRESENTATIVE VOTING NO WAS **TERRIE ANDERSON**.

- APPROVED TO ADOPT (24-0-0) NCA 09-124, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS AWARDED TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION - REINTEGRATION PROGRAM SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **J. GREENE; S. ADE; J. JENNINGS; D. PROCTOR** ($2,000.00)

3420 W. Peak Boulevard Muskogee, OK 74401 918.683.1825 www.creeknationcasino.net

CREEK NATION Casino MUSCOGEE

3:00 PM $20 SLOT TOURNAMENT
5:00 PM - 10:00 PM $10 MATCH PLAY
5:00 PM - 10:00 PM HOT SEAT PRIZES
LABOR DAY BINGO SESSION

LABOR DAY SEPT. 7TH

TABLE GAMES ANTE FREE ALL DAY. EVERY DAY. OPEN TO CLOSE.
The Ante's on us all day on Blackjack, Three Card Poker, and Ultimate Texas Hold'em.

ULTIMATE RICHES SEPT. 26TH

ULTIMATE SLOT TOURNAMENT - $2,500 in prizes
ULTIMATE BLACKJACK TOURNAMENT - $10,000 in prizes
ULTIMATE BINGO SESSION - $15 pays $750
ULTIMATE POKER TOURNAMENT - $10,000 in prizes

JUDICIAL

Audits

Continued from A1

Attorneys for the plaintiff and the defendant questioned Jansen about his extensive background in investigative audits such as his retirement from the position of Special Agent with the Criminal Investigation Division of the Internal Revenue Service, with over 24 years of CID law enforcement experience, conducting criminal investigations dealing with mail, bank and credit card fraud and his current position as the President of the Tulsa Chapter of Certified Fraud Examiners.

The investigations into the finances of the communities were conducted with a focus on tracking gaming funds. Determining certain monetary amounts and tracking those monies caused Jansen to believe practices within the communities resulted in the co-mingling of funds.

Beginning the second week of witness testimony, counsel focused on line items from the extensive audit reports of the individual communities. Some of the questions set the pace for the proceedings, in which several community chairman were asked difficult questions involving financial practices.

On Sept. 1, 2009, during questioning of Chairman of Eufaula Indian Community Tom Pickering, fifth amendment rights were evoked by the witness as many as four times. Later in the day, Board Member of Duck Creek Indian Community Cecil Harry took the stand.

Questioning focused on certain donations made by the community to outside parties, travel expenses and an "outplacement package." Further questioning revealed that certain employees were paid a bulk payment based on their salaries, which roughly equaled eighth months of salary. The plaintiff's counsel sought to determine the existence of Board Meeting minutes, which would have triggered these bulk salary payments. Harry was unable to clarify for the court the exact sequence of events, which resulted in those payments.

Later that afternoon, Jeff Fife, former Duck Creek Ranch Manager and Youth Mentoring Program Coordinator, took the stand. His testimony revealed that he was the author of the proposal for the Outplacement Program, which was drafted after researching other similar programs. This Outplacement Program paid roughly $91,000 to Community employees such as Daniel Wind, Jennie Goodell, Jeff Fife, and Rodney Luellen.

Fife's testimony stated that the intention of the program was to provide a smooth transition for employees who were gainfully employed but faced termination. Community officials testified that in the event of an executive proclamation, the community could not meet payroll demands with tobacco funding.

As the proceedings carried over to Sept. 2, 2009, witnesses Gary Rodgers, MCN Controller, Glen Eddleman, CPA, CFE and CFI with Curzon Cumbey & Kenkel, PLLC took the stand.

Testimony gathered from these witnesses centered on the method used to seize documents and the control of the six community accounts.

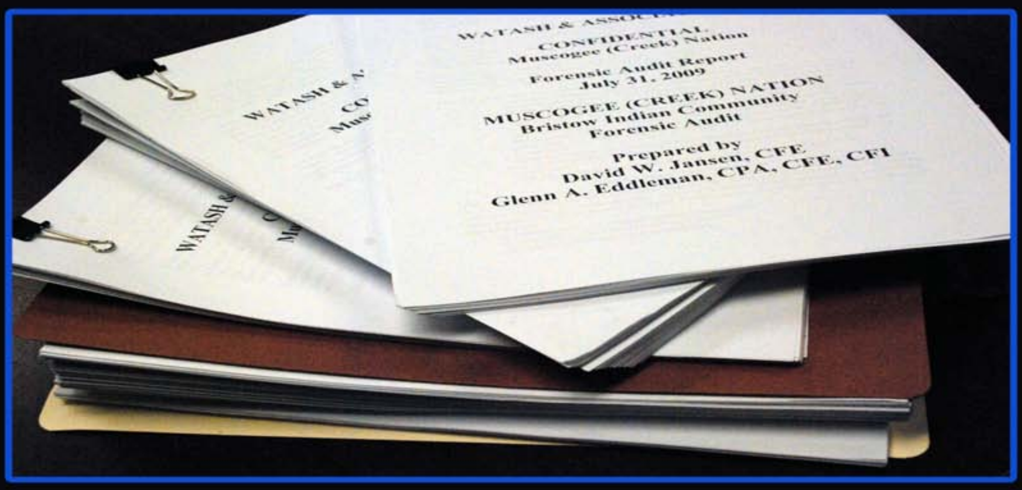
According to Rodgers, the monies seized from the communities amounted somewhere between $20 -$21 million dollars. Questions directed to Rodgers elicited his opinion as to the financial health of the Nation if the funds were to remain in the custody of MCN and if the funds were returned to the communities.

Rodgers stated that were the Nation to keep the funds, the financial health of the Nation would be affected positively, however, it was also his opinion that the Nation's financial future would still be stable if the funds were ultimately returned to the six communities. He added that there could be a negative impact if the funds were returned to the communities if they were not required to pay back the funds, which had been appropriated to them by the National Council.

Attorney for the Eufaula Indian Community, Chad Locke, moved for an early dismissal on Sept. 2, 2009 on the grounds that burden of proof had not been met. Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court Judge Patrick Moore denied this motion.

An up-to-the minute-update of this case will be available in the next edition of the *MNN*.

Get the facts!



FORENSIC AUDIT REPORTS of the Bristow, Checotah, Duck Creek, Eufaula, Holdenville & Okemah Indian Communities

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CITIZENSHIP BOARD
MVSKOKE ETV'LWV TVSE' KIA EN COKV HAYE APOKON
CITIZENSHIP CARD
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Roll No: 12345
Degree of Creek Blood 4/4

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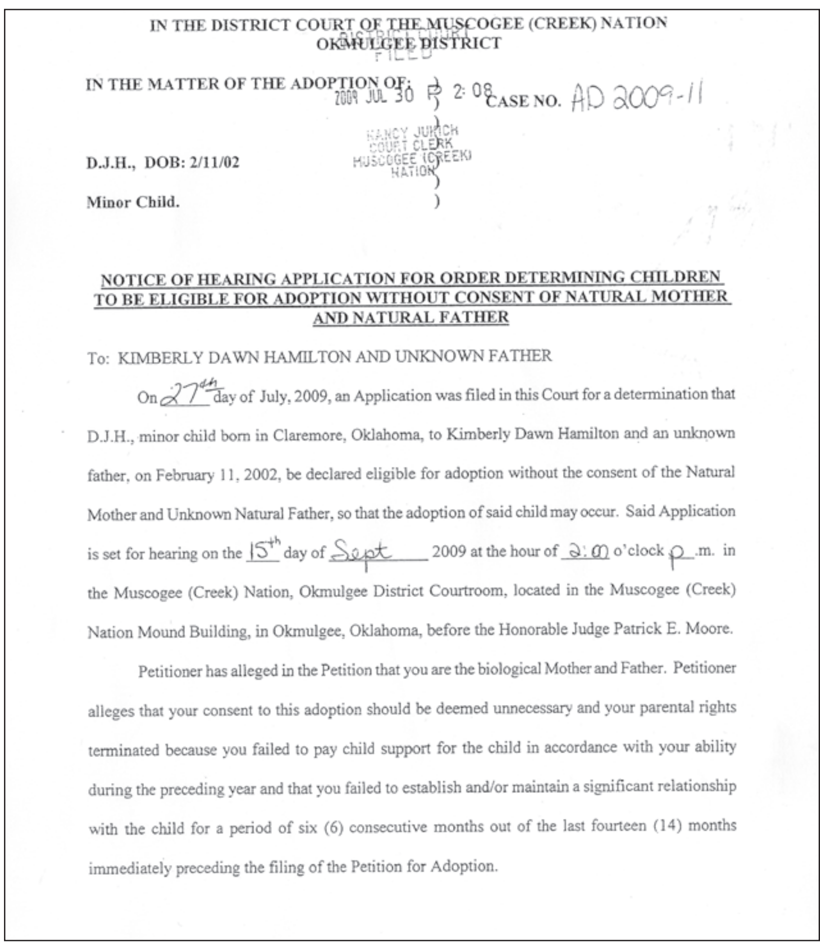
Legal Notices



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 JUL 30 P 2:08
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

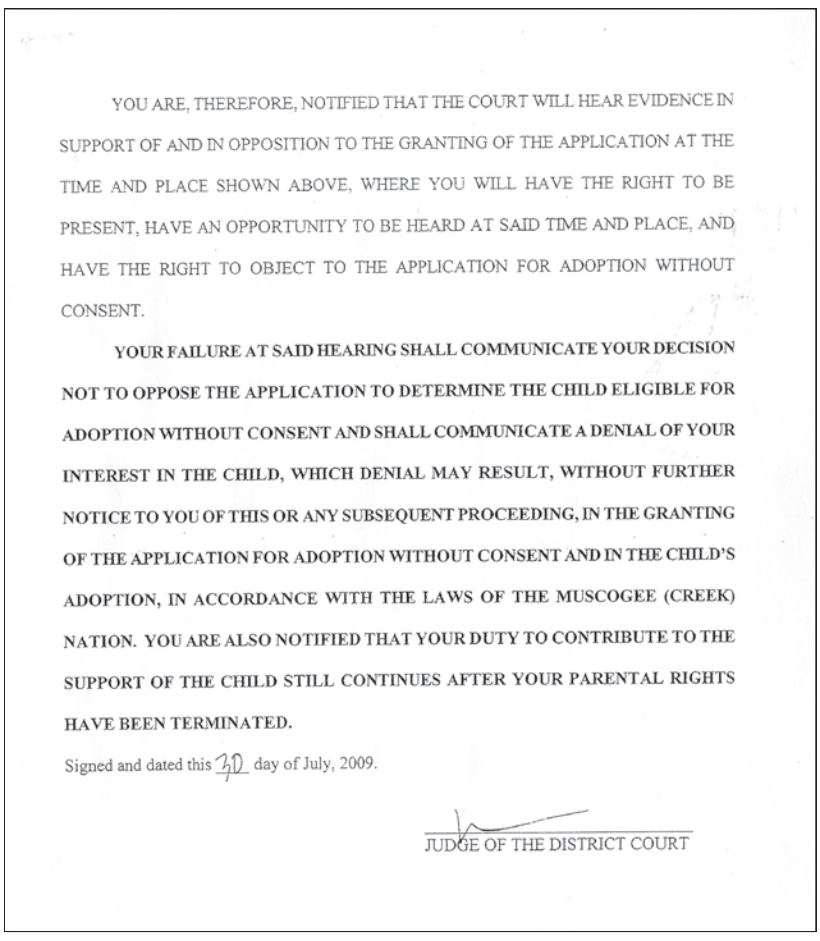
IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF:) CASE NO. AD 2009-11
)
D.J.H., DOB: 2/11/02)
)
Minor Child.)

NOTICE OF HEARING APPLICATION FOR ORDER DETERMINING CHILDREN TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT OF NATURAL MOTHER AND NATURAL FATHER

To: KIMBERLY DAWN HAMILTON AND UNKNOWN FATHER

On 27th day of July, 2009, an Application was filed in this Court for a determination that D.J.H., minor child born in Claremore, Oklahoma, to Kimberly Dawn Hamilton and an unknown father, on February 11, 2002, be declared eligible for adoption without the consent of the Natural Mother and Unknown Natural Father, so that the adoption of said child may occur. Said Application is set for hearing on the 15th day of Sept 2009 at the hour of 2:00 o'clock p.m. in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District Courtroom, located in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound Building, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore.

Petitioner has alleged in the Petition that you are the biological Mother and Father. Petitioner alleges that your consent to this adoption should be deemed unnecessary and your parental rights terminated because you failed to pay child support for the child in accordance with your ability during the preceding year and that you failed to establish and/or maintain a significant relationship with the child for a period of six (6) consecutive months out of the last fourteen (14) months immediately preceding the filing of the Petition for Adoption.

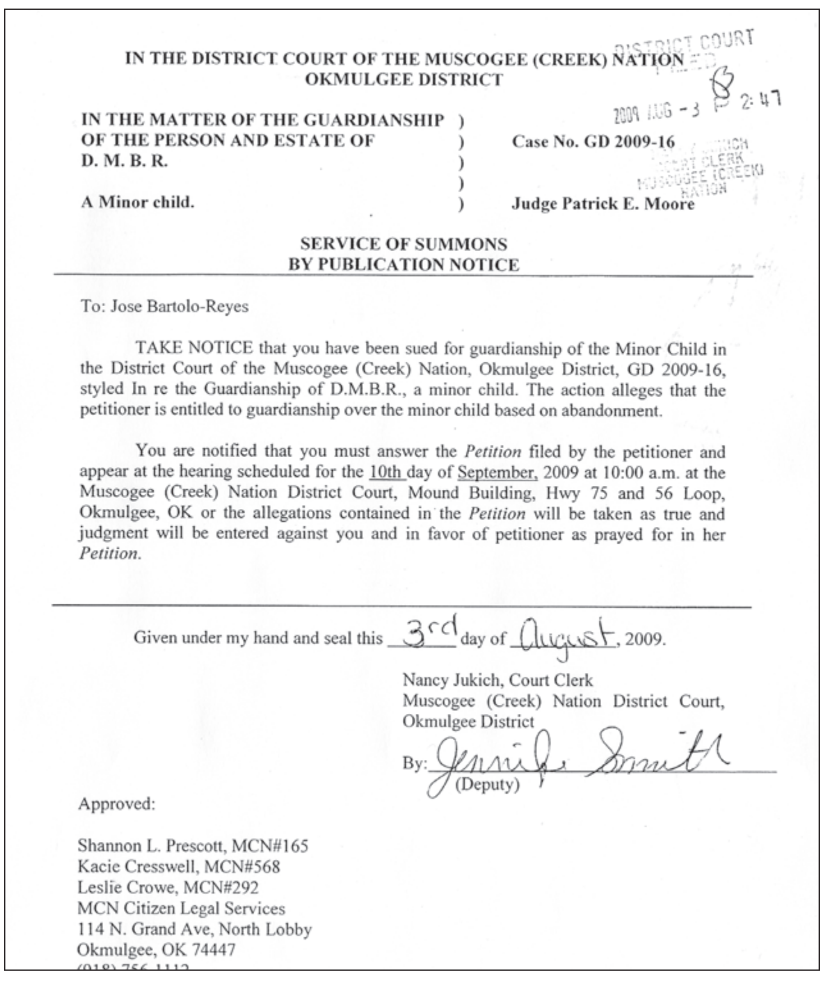


YOU ARE, THEREFORE, NOTIFIED THAT THE COURT WILL HEAR EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF AND IN OPPOSITION TO THE GRANTING OF THE APPLICATION AT THE TIME AND PLACE SHOWN ABOVE, WHERE YOU WILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE PRESENT, HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD AT SAID TIME AND PLACE, AND HAVE THE RIGHT TO OBJECT TO THE APPLICATION FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT.

YOUR FAILURE AT SAID HEARING SHALL COMMUNICATE YOUR DECISION NOT TO OPPOSE THE APPLICATION TO DETERMINE THE CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT AND SHALL COMMUNICATE A DENIAL OF YOUR INTEREST IN THE CHILD, WHICH DENIAL MAY RESULT, WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE TO YOU OF THIS OR ANY SUBSEQUENT PROCEEDING, IN THE GRANTING OF THE APPLICATION FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT AND IN THE CHILD'S ADOPTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION. YOU ARE ALSO NOTIFIED THAT YOUR DUTY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUPPORT OF THE CHILD STILL CONTINUES AFTER YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS HAVE BEEN TERMINATED.

Signed and dated this 30 day of July, 2009.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 AUG -3 P 2:47
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP)
OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE OF) Case No. GD 2009-16
D. M. B. R.)
)
A Minor child.) Judge Patrick E. Moore

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Jose Bartolo-Reyes

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship of the Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD 2009-16, styled In re the Guardianship of D.M.B.R., a minor child. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner and appear at the hearing scheduled for the 10th day of September, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Mound Building, Hwy 75 and 56 Loop, Okmulgee, OK or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

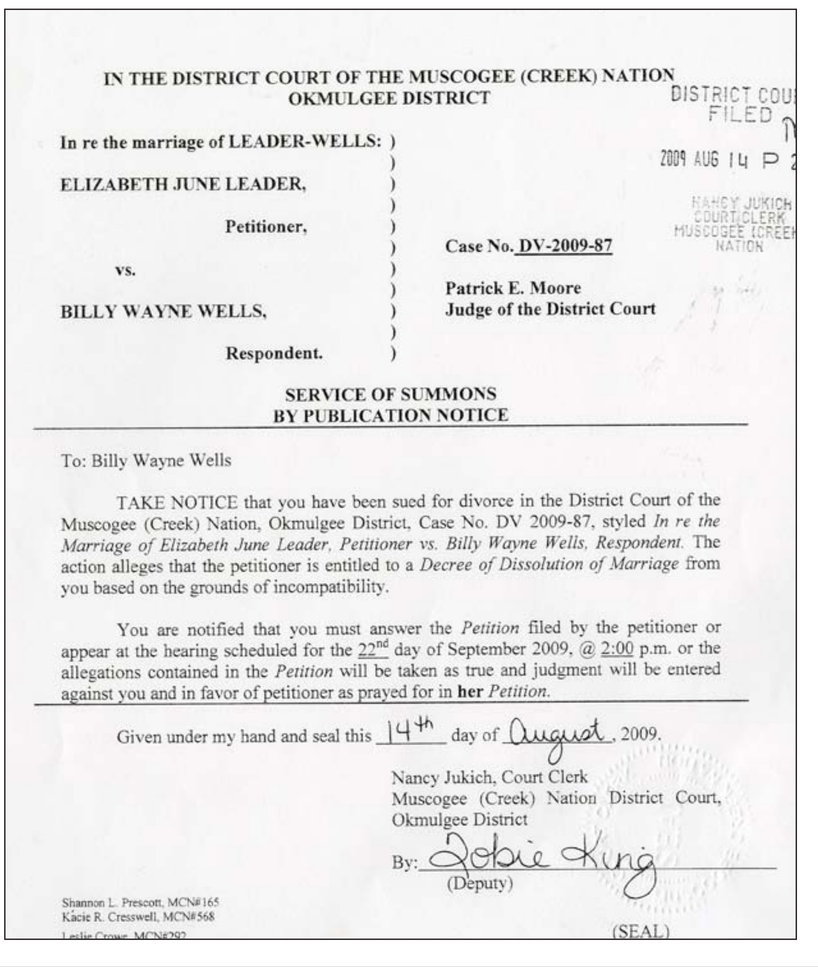
Given under my hand and seal this 3rd day of August, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By: Jennifer Smith
(Deputy)

Approved:

Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kacie Cresswell, MCN#568
Leslie Crowe, MCN#292
MCN Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COU
FILED
2009 AUG 14 P
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK
NATION

In re the marriage of LEADER-WELLS:)
)
ELIZABETH JUNE LEADER,)
)
Petitioner,)
) Case No. DV-2009-87
vs.)
) Patrick E. Moore
BILLY WAYNE WELLS,) Judge of the District Court
)
Respondent.)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Billy Wayne Wells

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV 2009-87, styled *In re the Marriage of Elizabeth June Leader, Petitioner vs. Billy Wayne Wells, Respondent.* The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear at the hearing scheduled for the 22nd day of September 2009, @ 2:00 p.m. or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in **her** *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 14th day of August, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

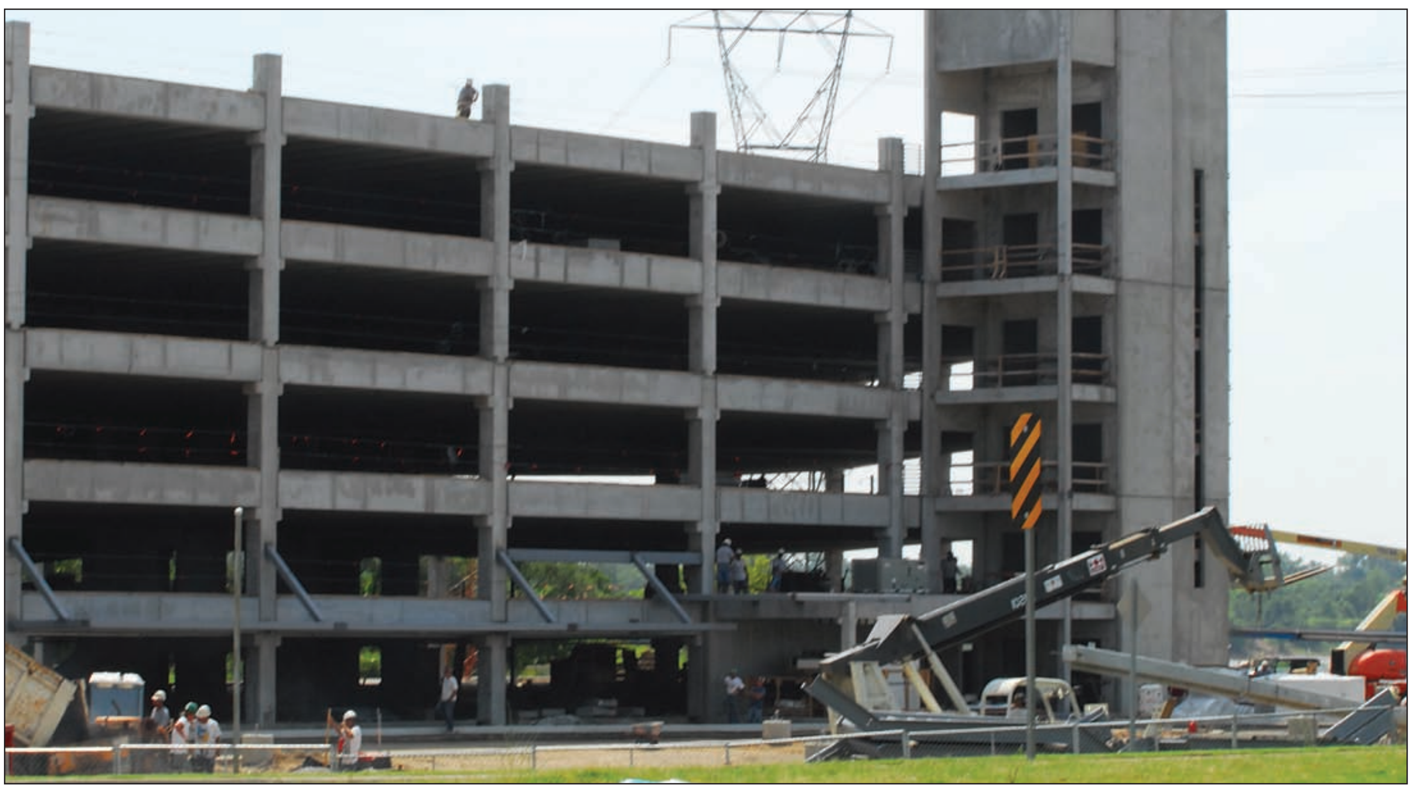
By: Tobie King
(Deputy)

Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kacie R. Cresswell, MCN#568
Leslie Crowe, MCN#292

(SEAL)

Phase II of River Spirit

• Covered parking phase increases accessibility



MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Pictured above is the beginning of what will become a multi-level parking garage for patrons of the River Spirit Casino. The project will be a compliment to not only the casino, but any future development projects.

TULSA – Shortly after the completion and grand opening of the River Spirit the MCN began to look towards the second phase of the three phase project.

Soon to be completed is a multi-level covered parking area which will be a perfect addition to the luxury gaming facility. The construction project is visibly shaping up to be a high capacity compliment to all phases of this entertainment hot spot.

Cranes and heavy machinery can be seen hoisting and positioning tremendous concrete sections which lend the area a hard hat appearance. A glimpse into the future however, reveals a cohesive vision for vacationers, gaming enthusiasts, music lovers and even Green Country residents craving great food.

The subsequent phases of the multi-faceted entertainment venue also include a hotel.

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Chief calls out City of Tulsa officials on double standard

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

TULSA — On Aug. 20 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis called a press conference in Tulsa in which he voiced his opinion concerning Tulsa City Council's resolution, which opposed the Muscogee (Creek) Nation placing land into near 121st Street and Yale Avenue.

The application to place the land into trust with the Bureau of Indian Affairs is necessary in order for the tribe to continue with phases of the RiverSpirit Casino and other economic development projects. Chief Ellis questioned the decision and called the resolution "hypocritical" of Tulsa. "They're objecting to us putting 40 acres in trust here, we found out the city of Tulsa owns approximately 12,000 acres in Delaware and Mayes counties, and it is tax-exempt," stated Ellis.

The primary objections illustrated in a letter from Mayor Kathy Taylor addressed to Bureau of Indian Affairs includes the city's loss of a minimum of $102,000 in property tax revenue as well as zoning issues. The letter ultimately requested of Indian Affairs to deny the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's application to admit the land into trust.

Chief Ellis sought the support of other tribal governments with trust land in and around cities everywhere to consider and respond to this attempt to interfere with tribal relations with the United States Government. Shawnee, Wyandotte, Modoc, and Quapaw tribes rallied in support of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Michael Sperry, of Jay, Okla., brought to light some key information about Tulsa's dealings with tax-exempt land at the press conference. Sperry stated that more than 20 percent of Delaware County's tax base is held off of the tax rolls due to the policy pursued by the city of Tulsa when they began buying land for their water reservoirs.

County Assessor of Delaware County, Leon Hurt confirmed some 9, 315.58 acres of land in Delaware County were owned by the City of Tulsa and currently exempt. Hurts further confirmed that the Jar, Kansas, Kenwood and Spavinaw School Districts as well as funding for the County Vo-Tech are affected by this exempt status.

Sperry reiterated the position Tulsa has taken concerning trust lands is a "double standard."

Chief Ellis highlighted some of the economic boosting contribution made by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation such as the 1,300 employees of River Spirit Casino who earn wages equaling some $34 million. Reports from the executive branch of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation reflect the millions, which the tribe contributes to the citizens and City of Tulsa. Those investments range from entertainment facilities such as the River Spirit, money spent for services with companies in the Tulsa area, assisting Tulsans with higher education, building homes, road improvements, employment and training services and child development.

In his letter to the BIA Chief Ellis states, "The City, in its promotion of the Tulsa Driller's new stadium, has hailed the benefit to neighboring cities regarding the construction of the Tulsa Driller's Ballpark. The city claims construction will 'benefit the entire metropolitan area by creating new jobs, bringing in more visits and visitor dollars, increasing property values resulting in increased property tax revenues… It will result in additional downtown development and bring new visitors and events to our city.' Clearly construction projects of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation would also benefit the entire metropolitan area. To now claim construction by someone other than the city would not benefit the metropolitan area is hypocritical at best."

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Pictured above are Michael Sperry and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis at a press conference discussing the future of tribal economic development in the City of Tulsa.

> *"...To now claim construction by someone other than the city would not benefit the metropolitan area is hypocritical at best."*
>
> - A.D. Ellis, Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

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Wednesdays from 6pm-10pm

At 6pm customers can start swiping their Player's Club Cards to enter the event. Drawings will be held every hour from 7pm until 10pm. When the winners name is called they will come to the promotions desk and draw a multiplier ball and a prize ball.

There will be 10 multiplier balls with the following multipliers:
(5) 1X, (2) 2X, (2) 3X & (1) 5X
There will be 10 prize balls with the following amounts:
(5) $10, (2) $20, (2) $40 & (1) $50

When the participant draws their balls they will receive the prize multiplied by the multiplier ball. *All participants must be a member of the player's club, must swipe their card & must be present to win.*

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The 3rd Annual Citizens' Diabetes Awareness Summit educates Mvskoke citizens

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — The 3rd Annual Citizens' Diabetes Awareness Summit kicked off Aug. 20, 2009, with the MCN Honor Guard posting colors. A prayer was then said by Pastor of the Concharty United Methodist Church, Newman Frank, along with the singing of a Creek hymn. In attendance were Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Edwin McLemore, CEO Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health and Dr. Elaine Miller, CMO among many participants, employees and other tribal officials.

Those participating in the summit were able to experience many valuable educational sessions such as yoga which demonstrated the importance of flexibility.

Specialized sessions such as the 'Total Body Workout Using a Chair Session' focused on improving health with limited physical abilities. Vicky Karhu directed two sessions. One of the sessions covered traditional food: history and health with the other session concentrating on the benefits of Tai Chi to help prevent or control diabetes. Irene Culley and William Fixico took fitness to a traditional level with a 'Playing Traditional Games to be Physically Active session.'

Throughout the day, attendees were treated to healthy snacks and entertainment and as a special treat, during the lunch period, Creek storyteller Will Hill performed "Legends."

The second day of the Summit got attendees hearts pumping with an early morning walk and Tai Chi. Paula Willits of the MCN National Council welcomed the returning crowd who learned the value of harmony and emotional well-being through workshops such as those conducted by Arne Vainio M.D., Darryl Tonemah, PhD and Ben Yahola's and Okacete Smith's 'Acting Up with Diabetes.'

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Top: Edwin McLemore, Muscogee (Creek) Nation CEO served as one of the opening speakers.

Bottom: Attendees register and obtain informational materials before the breakout sessions.

HEALTHNOTES

Your diabetes health care team

by Tamara Lambert, RN
Diabetes Educator

OKEMAH — If you have been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes or have a family member with diabetes, you know that managing this disease means seeing your primary care provider several times a year. Your primary care physician will often refer you to many professionals who are important to your condition and will become a part of your life. Your provider will often refer you to other professionals including diabetes educators and dietitians. They will work together as a team to help you manage your diabetes. Because it can be hard to remember everything you need to ask your providers a few questions that you can use as a guide are included in this article.

Diabetes educators are health care professionals who specialize in providing care and education to people with diabetes. Some have met specific care standards for diabetes education and are certified diabetes educators or (CDEs). The diabetes educator's job covers a wide range of care to further assist the provider to meet the patient's needs. The main focus of a diabetes educator is to help the patient gain knowledge of ways to prevent diabetes complications. They counsel patients on ways to eat healthy and give suggestions on how to fit in regular exercise. They also help patients to monitor blood glucose (blood sugar), understand lab tests (cholesterol, blood pressure, HbA1C, etc) and how their medications work. If the lab tests are out of range they will offer suggestions for lifestyle changes that will meet the individuals' needs. Some questions that you might ask the educator are "What is a healthy level for cholesterol?" "What should be my sick day plan?" or "What should I do if my blood sugar is too low?"

Many times diabetes educators and CDEs are Dietitians they have had lots of training in nutrition and they will help you understand diet do's and don'ts and give advice on how to have the occasional diet don't in a healthy manner. An example of questions to ask the dietitian is "What foods can I eat a lot of?" "How much of each type of food should I eat each day?" or "Why should I eat about the same amount at the same times each day?"

Because medication can play a huge role in the treatment of diabetes; doctors, nurses and pharmacists will teach you how to take your medicine. They will help you to avoid problems that can come from taking too little or too much of a medication. In addition to how much or often the medication is to be taken one might also consider asking "What is the name of the medicine?" "What is the medicine supposed to do?" or possibly "How will I know if the medication is working?"

Diabetes is a disease that affects many parts of the body and each system must be in balance for optimum possible health. Communication between you and your health care team is the key to good diabetes management. It is important to be honest about your diet, physical activity and medications. Your health care team is there to help learn ways for to self manage the disease so that you have the best possible care. Each Muscogee Creek Nation facility offers many educational opportunities to learn more about diabetes to help its citizens get the best quality health care.

OIC
OKEMAH INDIAN COMMUNITY
4th Annual
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Sept 30th - October 3rd
Okemah, OK

Parade, Festival Pageant, Kiddie Fest 2009,
4 X 4 Truck March, 5 on 5 Basketball Tournament,
Boxing, Volleyball, Golf, Rodeo, Gospel Singing,
Fellowship Dinner (traditional food), Traditional
Dance and Senior Bingo.
For more event or contact information
see Page B1

Transit Authority passes competition

• MCN employees put 'pedal to the metal'

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

Pictured above are Muscogee (Creek) Nation Transit Authority employees (left to right): Butch Jesse - Driver, Christine Rogers - Administrative Assistant and part-time Driver, Kogee Spainard - Driver, Dan Beasley - Driver and Director Ben Chaney.

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — There are those who rise with the sun and those who hit the snooze button a few more times before stumbling into the bathroom on any given morning. For many, the daily commute is maneuvered with sleepy eyes and decaffeinated minds.

For the employees of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Transit Authority, however, the *drive* is the job. They rise promptly each day in order to make sure citizens arrive, on time, to their requested destination. Many of the passengers are fellow employees and ride the transit buses to and from work several times a week and depend on the transit drivers to be alert, even if there are still a few yawns to get rid of before 8 a.m. However, being awake is only the first check on the list for drivers. Not only must they be up-to-date on state and federal regulations, but drivers must also make the safety of their passengers their number one concern.

Recently, drivers have been putting the proverbial 'pedal to the metal' while training for the first annual Tribal Transit Rodeo held in Oklahoma City this past August where drivers Christine Rogers, Butch Jesse Kogee Spainiard and Butch Jesse competed for top honors among seven other tribes throughout Okla., and Kan., for a year's worth of bragging rights to the road.

Both Rogers and Jesse placed in the driving portion of competition which also included a written test. Rogers, who also serves as the department's administrative assistant, took the top spot while Jesse's score landed him in third place. The two will travel to the National Transit Rodeo competition Nov. 16-19 in Albuquerque, N.M., to test their skills once more against the best transit drivers in the country.

As a whole, the team spent hours of their own time practicing the precise turns used to evaluate each driver's depth perception and hand-eye coordination needed to perform under pressure. Each participant also received a certificate of completion and will be back next year to tackle a new set of challenges with four new tires.

According to Director Ben Chaney, he is more than satisfied with their efforts both on and off the track. "I'm very proud of them. They have really worked hard," Chaney said.

Personnel weight loss challenge

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Pictured above are the weight loss challenge winners team "Wild and Sassy" who got with the program and won by losing a total of 34.8 pounds. Congratulations ladies! "Wild and Sassy" is made up of Jan Hart, Kristal Bagby, Barbara Sands and Amber Sands.

PROGRAMNOTES

WIC Program introduces new and improved food package

by Leslie Luckett, MPH
MCN WIC Program Director

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation WIC Program is pleased to announce the implementation of the New WIC Food Packages on Aug. 3, 2009.

"These changes reflect what is best for the health of our WIC participants," said Muscogee (Creek) Nation WIC Director Leslie Luckett. "We all know that nutrition plays an important role in our health. This is one more way Public Health is working to ensure nutritious foods are a part of our everyday diets."

The WIC food packages provide supplemental foods designed to meet the special nutritional needs of income eligible pregnant, breastfeeding, non-breastfeeding postpartum women, infants and children up to five years of age who are at nutritional risk.

The revised food packages retain the same food categories previously allowed under WIC, but add new food categories and optional substitutions to better meet the needs of WIC's diverse population including:

- Cash Value Benefit for the purchase of fresh or frozen fruits and vegetables;
- Tofu and soy products;
- Whole grain products to include brown rice, bread, tortillas and bulgur wheat;
- Baby food that includes fruits and vegetables; and
- Baby meats for fully breastfed infants.

The changes align the WIC food packages with the 2005 Dietary Guidelines for Americans and Infant Feeding Practice Guidelines of the American Academy of Pediatrics. They reflect recommendations made by the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies in its report, "WIC Food Packages: Time for a Change." Please join us in our enthusiasm of this historic event.

For more information, please contact the WIC office at (918) 758-2722 or 1-800-648-2302.

Social Services continues to offer summer energy assistance

Media Release
MCN Social Services Dept.

OKMULGEE — The Social Services Department is now offering two programs for summer energy assistance. We will continue to take applications through September 30, 2009, or until the funds are exhausted.

LIHEAP (Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program) is available for low-income families residing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation service boundaries.

The Tribal Energy Program is available for elders (55 and older) or those receiving disability benefits through the Social Security Administration.

Applicants may choose to apply in a number of ways including in person. No appointment is necessary and clients will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis. Office hours are 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. We are located at 2971 N. Wood Drive, just north of the MCN Housing Building.

Citizens may also apply by mail, fax or in person. Applicants should keep paying their bill until they receive an approval letter. Please allow at least 45 days for processing.

Please contact Social Services at (918) 759-2334 for additional information. The toll-free number is 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7995.

MCN Food Distribution Program holds best commodity recipe contest

Media Release
MCN Food Distribution Program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Food Distribution Program is looking for individuals that would like to participate in the Best Commodity Recipe Contest.

The rules and regulations are:

Recipe must contain at least four ingredients from the commodity program.

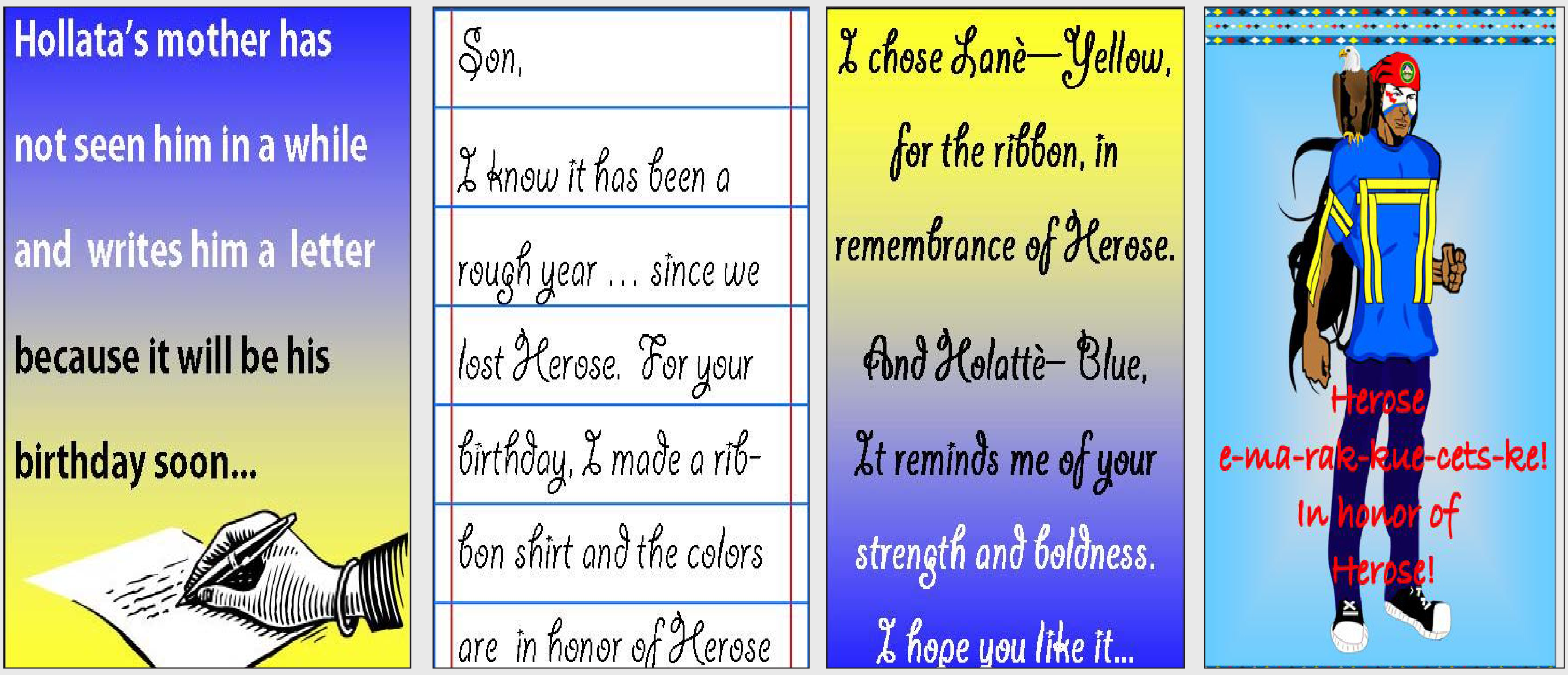
Recipe must be an original and be turned in by the deadline, Friday, Sept. 11.

The winner will be posted at the Okmulgee site and will be notified.

To obtain an entry form, stop by the Food Distribution office located at 3001 N. Wood Dr. in Okmulgee, Okla.

Interested participants may also contact the office by phone at (918) 756-3467 for the office, or toll free at 800-482-1979 or by fax at (918) 758-0849. Also visit the web site at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov and follow the links under Community Services.

TOBACCOPREVENTION: *The Adventures of Wind Warrior*


Hollata's mother has not seen him in a while and writes him a letter because it will be his birthday soon...
Son,
I know it has been a rough year ... since we lost Herose. For your birthday, I made a ribbon shirt and the colors are in honor of Herose
I chose Lanè—Yellow, for the ribbon, in remembrance of Herose.
And Holattè– Blue,
It reminds me of your strength and boldness.
I hope you like it...
Herose e-ma-rak-kue-cets-ke!
In honor of Herose!

NAJA celebrates 25th anniversary

by Lee Longhorn
MNN Intern

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M, — With 25 years of commitment to increasing the number of native journalists in mainstream media, the Native American Journalists Association has continually strived to meet such representation. This year marks NAJA's silver anniversary, held in Albuquerque, N.M., July 30 - August 1, 2009.

This year's conference included several speakers and presenters of various media backgrounds including journalists from National Public Radio, Wisconsin Public Radio, the Cherokee Phoenix, Navajo Times and the Principal Chief of the Osage Nation.

Photo submitted

Pictured above is Muscogee (Creek) citizen and staff writer for *Cherokee Phoenix* Christina Goodvoice along with *Muscogee Nation News* Intern Lee Longhorn.

Among this year's awards presented, Cherokee Phoenix staff writer Christina Good Voice, Muscogee (Creek) was awarded third place in the category "Best Column for Monthly/Bi-Monthly" and first place in "Best News Story for a Monthly/Bi-Monthly."

MNN intern Lee Longhorn was one of 10 college students selected to participate in the annual NAJA Student Projects workshop. Longhorn says "You learn all these lessons and theories on how to be a journalist in school. It's through internships and student projects like these, that you are able to apply all these concepts on your own." The students were in charge of producing a newspaper with stories regarding the local area. Along with the print articles, other multimedia coverage including broadcast, radio and slide shows were taught by credentialed instructors. High School students were part of Project Phoenix, a camp that exposes pre-collegiate students as to what a career in journalism is like.

Originally referred to as the Native American Press Association, NAPA was founded in 1984. NAPA's first annual convention was held in Warm Springs, Ore. In 1990, NAPA changed its name to the Native American Journalists Association to include radio and television professionals among its members. In 2007, NAJA moved its' headquarters to the University of Oklahoma's Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication located in Norman, Okla.

Higher Education sets Dec. 15, 2009 deadline for Spring

by Lee Longhorn
MNN Intern

OKMULGEE — Enrolled Muscogee (Creek) students applying for assistance from the Creek Nation Higher Education Department may qualify to receive aide from one or more of the grant programs, upon verification of eligibility.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation college-bound students or students currently enrolled in higher education institutes have missed the deadline for education assistance for the Fall 2009 semester. The deadline to apply was June 1, 2009.

Students wishing to apply for spring semester assistance have until December 15. The MCN Higher Education Grant Program offers two undergraduate grant programs, a post-graduate grant program and an incentive program to eligible students enrolled part-or full-time at an accredited school.

Students are required to keep a certain grade point average for certain grants and are responsible for submitting all required documents into the higher education program when applying. Students maintaining a grade point average of a 3.0 or better, each semester may be eligible to receive a tribal incentive grant.

The tribal incentive grant is awarded to enrolled citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation who meet the required grade point average of 3.0 or better, each semester. Awards are given based on a student's status. Full time status students will be awarded $700 per semester/quarter and part time students may receive $350 per semester/quarter. This program is limited to 10 semesters and students must submit an official copy of their college transcript showing the previous semester's grade in order to be eligible.

There are restrictions to the grant programs, including: limited number of semesters, required minimum grade point averages and the availability of funding.

Chanenna Davis, M.Ed., and Higher Education Manager, says "Go ahead and apply even if you [the student] are unsure of eligibility." Davis, who's seen Creek students excel in college and universities across the state and nation, from undergraduate to graduate degrees adds, "I'm very proud of the students and think they're doing a great job."

For more information regarding higher education grant programs applicants may request information to:

Attn: Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Higher Education
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee,Ok 74447
Office: (918) 732-7689
Fax: (918) 732-7694

Summer camps empower Native youth

MNN/*Lee Longhorn*

Pictured above and below are participants of the D.R.U.M.S. Summer Camp for Native youth who made a traditional drum from start to finish.

by Lee Longhorn
MNN Intern

OKMULGEE — As the summer months turn to the shorter days of fall, the memories of the long hot months remain in the minds of students. Summer camps help students enhance their vacation break by offering different programs that are directed toward education, health and recreation, cultural and self-awareness.

During the summer months, camps are offered through various programs and organizations directed at enhancing a students' interest in extra-curricular activities. The Muscogee (Creek) Language program offers a summer language immersion camp, where young Muscogee (Creek) students spend a week long break learning more about the Muscogee (Creek) language and culture.

Muscogee (Creek) Language Program Manager Kathleen Coachman says, "This camp is important because the students want to learn the language." Coachman explained that the students learned more than just the language.

The youth in attendance were educated on the importance of knowing one's language, cultural activities such as clans and yarn belt making. Camps like these are important for Native youth, to help identify with their cultural background.

The Oklahoma City Indian Education Program had a similar camp for Oklahoma City Public School American Indian Students entitled "Developing Responsible, United and Motivated Students" or DRUMS. Eight young men from grades 7-10 grade, spent a week learning the art of drum-making. Each of the students had the opportunity to create a small drum over the course of eight days.

Similar cultural camps are offered throughout the summer and other camps directed toward enhancing students educational curiosity, health, and recreational abilities aid students in staying active while they aren't in school.

Lucas Taylor, Chairman of 4 Love of the Game, says "Camps like ours and all camps are important because if a student doesn't have anything to do, they'll find something to do." Taylor continues, "These camps and others help create positive, responsible, motivated young individuals."

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
School Clothing Assistance Program

NEW **START DATE FOR THE SCHOOL CLOTHING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IS JUNE 1, 2009!!**

WHO: The School Clothing Assistance Program is to assist Creek students who are enrolled as a Muscogee Creek Citizen. Students must be 3 years old and enrolled in any Head-Start or private school, at least 4 years old and enrolled in a public or private school, no higher than the 12th grade. Home schooled children ages 5 to 18 are also eligible.

WHAT: A grant of $200.00 to purchase clothing items and/or shoes.

WHEN: **ATTENTION! New Start Date!!** Applications will be available beginning June 1, 2009 and will end October 2, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

WHERE: Applications will be available at the School Clothing Program office, MCN Indian Community Centers and the MCN Child Development Centers.
You can also call 918-756-2024 or 800-482-1979 to request an application be mailed or faxed to you!

For questions or additional information, contact the
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
School Clothing Program
at 918-756-2024 or 800-482-1979

The School Clothing Program Office is located behind the Social Services Building at 2971 N. Wood Drive, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

MOVIE NIGHT!

ATTN: UNITED STATES AIR FORCE VETERANS

In Honor of Muscogee Veterans
the VASO will be hosting
"MOVIE NIGHT"
(Thursday, 17 September 2009)

To Celebrate The Birth Month Of The United States Air Force (18 September 1947)

- Showtime - 1900 Hrs. - Thursday, 17 September 2009
- Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
- Movie - **"Strategic Air Command", with Jimmy Stewart**
- Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
- Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
- Smoking Lamp is Lit
- Price of Admission - Air Force Veterans must wear their MCN VeteransVest (If you do not have a vest bring in your DD-214 to be measured for a MCN Veterans vest).
- Muscogee Air Force Veterans are now allowed to bring one guest (Please limit to only one guest)
- **"Movie Night"** is for Muscogee Veterans only (Plus one guest)
- Any questions call Shawn Taryole at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7745

Mvskoke Country: *Three Old Friends*
LIVING - B3

Creek Warrior makes Comeback SPORTS - B7

FEATURES

Coweta Mayor makes Proclamation

• August 8, 2009 declared Muscogee (Creek) Day

MNN/*Denise Jacobs*
Pictured above are National Council Rep. Sam Alexander, Public Relations Manager Thompson Gouge, Mayor of Coweta Robert Morton and National Council Rep. Johnnie Green.

MAYOR MORTON HONORS TRIBE

COWETA – On Monday, August 3, 2009 a Proclamation from the Mayor of Coweta was received by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at the Coweta City Council Regular Meeting. By the Honorable Mayor Robert Morton and City Council of the City of Coweta, Oklahoma, the City of Coweta declares August 8, 2009, as Muscogee (Creek) Nation Day.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation with the assistance of Wagoner District National Council Representative Johnnie Green, worked with the City of Coweta in providing funding for the installation of new storm warning sirens within the community. This is just one of the many projects that Muscogee (Creek) Nation has assisted communities in their time of need. Not only do Creek Citizens benefit from this assistance but the community that surrounds our citizens.

MNN/*Thompson Gouge*

OIC "grows" Creek culture

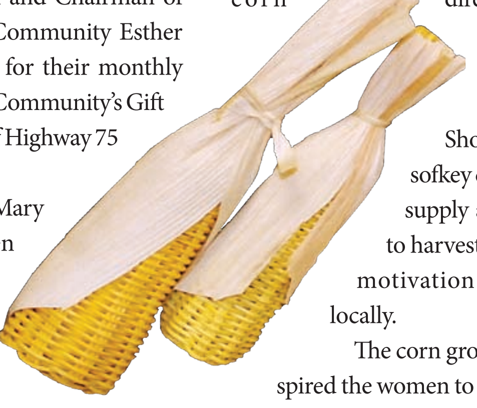
• Community uses corn for inspiration in basket-making

OIC/*Esther Gee*
Pictured above are OIC Chairman Esther Gee, Bertha Taylor and Mary Smith standing in front of the corn patch located at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center's Gift and Smoke Shop. These ladies have perfected the art of corn-shaped basket-making and will offer their work for sale at the gift shop in the near future.

Media Release
Okmulgee Indian Community

OKMULGEE — Maintaining the Creek culture is the goal of Bertha Taylor, Mary Smith and Chairman of Okmulgee Indian Community Esther Gee as they gather for their monthly meeting held at the Community's Gift Shop, located just off Highway 75 to the West.

Working with Mary Smith, these women learn basket-making techniques that are centuries old, but new to them. Striving to connect these important techniques with traditional Creek food also gave Gee the idea to plant sofkey corn directly in front of the Okmulgee Indian Community Gift Shop. Seed for the sofkey corn is in short supply and the desire to harvest it became the motivation for planting locally.



The corn growing there inspired the women to use the design of the corn for the baskets they have been creating. Additionally, the acorn design is another traditional technique they have learned.

These craft items will be on sale in the near future at OIC's Gift Shop and will also be shared with 150 cancer survivors from all over the U.S., who will be meeting in Tulsa this fall for a conference. The aim of these ladies and the Okmulgee Indian Community is to share the Creek culture while also maintaining the art of traditional basket-making to the benefit of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Fore more information, please contact Esther Gee at (918) 759-8553 or (918) 758-0970.

Petition fails to get required signatures

Media Release
Thompson Gouge

OKMULGEE — On June 15, 2009, a Notice of Petition to Remove a Public Officer, A.D. Ellis as Principal Chief, was filed by Jamie Frederick to the Secretary of the Election Board of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

As of 5 p.m. Fri., August 14, 2009, the Secretary of the National Council had not received a signed petition showing cause of removal containing 20 percent of the registered voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The total registered voters equal 16,211 with 20 percent equaling 3,242. The deadline of 60 days to obtain the signatures expired Fri., August 14, 2009 at 5 p.m.

This is the second Petition to Remove a Public Officer that has failed due to inability to receive the required number of signatures in 2009.

Okemah to host annual Fall Festival Sept. 30 - Oct. 3

by Ruth Bible
Cultural Reporter

OKEMAH—The Okemah Indian Community will be hosting the fourth annual Fall Festival Sept. 30 - Oct. 3, 2009 beginning at 7 p.m. Events will include a basketball tournament, pageant and kiddie festival.

The 5-on-5 basketball tournament will be held at the Okemah Middle School Gymnasium and Multipurpose Building. The entry fee per team is $75 and registration deadline is Sept. 25 (after deadline cost is $100 per team). Day of tournament registration will begin on Saturday, Oct. 3, at 8 a.m., with games beginning at 9 a.m.

Deadline for entry to the Miss Fall Festival Pageant is Sept. 18, 2009. Participants must have proof of Creek citizenship and pageant packets may be picked up at the Okemah Indian Community Center located at 1100 S. Woody Guthrie in Okemah, by mail or fax. For more information, please contact Toney Lee at (918) 304-7192 or Kara Lee at (918) 716-0343.

Kiddie Fest 2009 will take place at the Okemah Casino Parking Lot. This year's parade theme is: "Uniting Traditions of the past with Traditions of Today." Check-in and registration will begin at 10:30, line-up at 11:30 with parade beginning at 12 noon, which will include a 4X4 Truck March. For more information, contact Sunnie Marshall or Vicky at (918) 623-9227.

CULTURE B2
Poarch Creek Tribal Youth Council aim to revitalize Rivercane plant

LIVING B3
And Still the Waters Run: *Josie's Bowl*

LIFESTYLES B4
Avalynn Lorane Cantrell

SPOTLIGHT B5
Fields' poem published in Tribal College Journal

OBITUARIES B6
Gladys Landsberry

ADVERTISEMENT B8
California Muscogee Creek Association Gathering

Poarch Creek Tribal Youth Council aim to revitalize Rivercane plant

Poarch Creek Tribal Youth/*Alex Alvarez*

Pictured above are Poarch Creek youth who are working toward bringing Rivercane back into use among tribal members for spiritual, cultural and daily usage among the Native people in Alabama.

by Alex Alvarez
Poarch Creek Tribal Youth Council

ATMORE, Ala.— On Wednesday, August 12, 2009, The Poarch Creek Tribal Youth Council brought back a sacred plant to their community. Rivercane once covered millions of acres across the southeastern United States. The plant was heavily depended upon by Native Americans, including Muscogee (Creek), Choctaw, Chickasaw, Seminole, Cherokee, Houma, Chitimacha and many others.

Its many uses included blowguns, thatching for houses, mats, fishing spears, arrows, baskets, ceremonial items and hundreds more. It was one of the most important utilitarian plants of the Southeastern Indians.

Not only was it important to Native Americans, rivercane played a pivotal role in the environment as well. Over 60 species of animals, birds, and insects called the vast canebreaks (large area of rivercane) home, including bear, bison, Elk, and panther. Two species of birds, the passenger pigeon and Carolina parakeet, which also used the vast canebreaks as shelter, are now extinct.

Rivercane also proves to be a valuable asset in improving ecosystems. The high culm (woody stems) density is responsible for slowing flood waters and collecting decomposing matter which then turns into nutrient-rich soil. The interwoven system of rhizomes, which are the stems of rivercane below ground, holds soil together to decrease erosion near creeks, rivers, streams, and branches of fresh water. Ultimately, rivercane greatly improves the quality of freshwater.

Since European arrival to the continent, the rivercane population has decreased tremendously. Deforestation, over-grazing by European livestock, Cattle and swine, and urbanization has depleted the native plant population to only a fraction of its original population. The U.S Geological Survey has listed the species as "Critically Rare" and the Nature Conservancy has it listed as "Globally Rare".

When the Poarch Creek Cultural Education program began in 2006, it had one goal - to bring culture back to the community and ensure its presence for years to come. Today, language, stickball, traditional gospel hymns, dancing, finger-weaving, basket-weaving and patchwork, are all part of the community once again. In order to gather cane, basket makers must travel over 90 miles to a canebreak in central Alabama, and even there, the cane is scarce. Creek basket makers here must use a commercial substitute to weave most baskets.

Now, with the Rivercane Restoration Project, the tribe will have access to this sacred plant for generations to come. The Poarch Creek Tribal Youth Council, which is an organization for Native youth to learn cultural values and history, leadership skills, community citizenship, and environmental protection, assisted in planting the one-hundred, three-month-old plants donated by the Jamie L. Whitten Planting Materials center in Coffeeville, Miss. The youth council plans to continue the restoration project around other locations of tribal property. These plants will be ready to harvest in ten years.

The project's name, Sacred Roots, is based upon not only what the plant does for the environment, but also the philosophy that we do not do things for our instant gratification, but instead for benefit of generations.

MUSEUMUPDATES

Council House recieves grant to help preserve historic collections

by Ted Isham
Creek Council House Museum

ATMORE, Ala.—The Oklahoma Department of Libraries, in partnership with the Oklahoma Historical Records Advisory Board, today announced that the Creek Council House Museum was awarded a "Threats to Your Collection" grant of $1,015 to purchase environmental monitoring equipment, dehumidifiers, and other materials necessary for improving the environmental conditions of the collections to the Creek Council House Museum.

The purpose of the Creek Council House Museum Association is to collect, preserve and interpret the cultures of the Native American peoples with emphasis on the cultures represented by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; to encourage research and education of the cultures of the Native American peoples with emphasis on the cultures represented by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; to operate a museum to further these purposes; and to promote the integrity of the Creek Council House building.

"In presenting this grant to the Creek Council House Museum, it is our intention to help further its commitment to providing the best possible care of the historic materials in its collections," said Susan McVey, Director of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries.

"We hope that these grants will facilitate increased local support for the care of historic collections held by organizations such as the Creek Council House Museum."

According to McVey, the "Threats to Your Collection" grant opportunity was an outcome of a statewide survey that assessed the condition of collections held by Oklahoma's 800 museums and libraries. The study found that almost all organizations have lost historic materials through theft, environmental damage, and other causes. "It is our goal to stem the loss of Oklahoma's heritage by providing funding for secure storage, environmental controls, archival storage supplies, fire detection, and other projects that address threats to collections," McVey said.

Support for the grant program was provided by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, the funding arm for the National Archives and Records Administration. Grants totaling $50,000 were awarded to 27 Oklahoma institutions.

For more information on the Creek Council House Museum, contact Ted Isham the museum curator at 918-756-2324.

Mvskoke Language Acitivity

Basic Conversion

Below is a list conversation phrases:
Write the correct alphabet on
the line numbered answers.

A. Hesci, cokv hecvlke!
B. Cokc ohonayvs.
C. Fekhonnvs.
D. Tvlofvn vyis.
E.Hvtvm cehecvres.

1. ___I am going to town.
2. ___Read the book.
3. ___Hello, students!
4. ___I'll see you again.
5. ___Stop.

Mail in your answers to:
Creek Nation of Oklahoma,
Mvskoke Language Program
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447

Winners will be announced in next month's paper.

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(918) 758-6687
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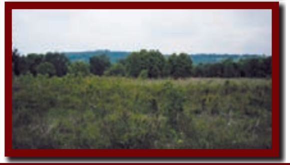
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FIRST MORTGAGE COMPANY

Mvskoke Country: *Three Old Friends*

by James Treat

S. W. Woodhouse, the young surgeon-naturalist, left Philadelphia in the spring of 1849 to join the Creek-Cherokee boundary survey. Like most of the Mvskokes who removed to Indian Territory a few years earlier, he had never been so far west.

Woodhouse filled three small journals during the summers of 1849 and 1850, recording his observations of the flora and fauna in Mvskoke country. As an avid ornithologist, he was especially interested in the birds he saw while following the survey crew.

Among the many avian species he noted were the passenger pigeon, the Carolina parakeet, and the ivory-billed woodpecker. Mvskokes who had made the long trek from the old country were familiar with all three birds as well, since each ranged widely over the southeastern part of the continent.

Passenger pigeons were once the most numerous bird in North America. A single migrating flock could stretch a mile wide and take several hours to pass overhead. Their roosts were congested enough to break tree limbs. They were easy to hunt, and nineteenth-century Americans devoured them the way we eat chickens today.

Carolina parakeets also traveled in large and noisy flocks. As the continent's only native parrot north of Mexico, they were valued for their brightly colored feathers: green body, yellow head, red-orange mask around the beak. And these talkative birds would eat just about anything, including farm produce.

Ivory-billed woodpeckers were much less prevalent and preferred living in swampy forests. With a typical wingspan of over thirty inches, they were one of the largest woodpeckers in the world. Their black, white, and red coloration is very similar to the more common pileated woodpecker, with whom they are often confused.

These three familiar birds must have helped ease the transition for Mvskokes forced to move west, reminding them of home since time immemorial.

Unfortunately, these friendly reminders did not last long. By the early twentieth century, all three species had been declared extinct.

American merchants over hunted the passenger pigeon as a profitable food commodity. American farmers massacred the Carolina parakeet to protect their commercial crops. American developers wiped out the ivory-billed woodpecker by destroying much of its specialized habitat.

We'll never again see these three old friends winging their way across Mvskoke country.

* * *

The extinction of a species is always a sad event, and it's the kind of news that usually comes from scientists who specialize in one thing or another. As it turns out, these particular losses were also recorded in the Mvskoke language.

We can find evidence of our changing relationship to the natural world by comparing the two comprehensive dictionaries translating Mvskoke words into English: the first, written by R. M. Loughridge and David M. Hodge and published in 1890; the second, written by Jack B. Martin and Margaret McKane Mauldin and published in 2000.

Today, for example, the Mvskoke word pvce means "pigeon." But as Martin and Mauldin point out, it formerly referred to "the passenger pigeon," a more specific sense of the word that became obsolete when this bird disappeared.

The related word pvce-lane (literally, green pigeon) means "parrot." Loughridge and Hodge, however, noted an older sense, "parraquet" (parakeet), reflecting Mvskoke familiarity with the Carolina parakeet in 1890. This species would also soon be gone, as would the meaning of its Mvskoke name.

The ivory-billed woodpecker is a more elusive prey. Loughridge and Hodge recorded at least six words for different types of woodpecker, while Martin and Mauldin recorded more than eight. Most of their definitions are too general to correlate with particular species, especially those that haven't been seen for nearly a century.

Perhaps one of these terms was used for ivory-billed woodpeckers, or perhaps the Mvskoke name has been lost. Or perhaps it survives in the memory of one of our elders, just as some ornithologists believe the ivory-billed woodpecker still lives in the Big Woods region of Arkansas.

* * *

Neither dictionary includes a Mvskoke word for "extinct" or "extinction," but maybe we should come up with one pretty soon.

Scientists now say the planet's animal and plant species are becoming extinct at a rate higher than any time in the past sixty-five million years. That's going back to the fifth mass extinction in earth's history, the one that killed most of the dinosaurs. Cause of death? A warmer climate.

Today we're witnessing the sixth mass extinction on planet earth. What makes this current episode different is that global warming is being caused by human activity.

We must reduce our exploitation of the natural world, lest we lose any more of our old friends. We must stop climate change before it stops us.

* * *

You can find more information about Mvskoke country, including an archive of previous columns, at http://mvskokecountry.wordpress.com/

I welcome your comments on anything I've written, as well as your suggestions for things I should be writing about. You can reach me by email at treaty@illinois.edu

And Still the Waters Run: *Josie's Bowl*

Photos courtesy of George Windes

Pictured above are Josephine Howell Freeman, Red Eagle's grand-daughter standing proudly beside her oldest son, J.L. "Roy" Freeman

by George Windes
CMCA Historian

YORBA LINDA, Cali., — The most treasured artifact in our family circle has little monetary value. Unlike folks that claim something that traveled on the Mayflower or who display a Limoges china service, we prefer instead to feel the smoothness of an old wooden dough-bowl. To run one's fingers across the surface, is to feel hand carved cuts and groves of a distant time. The ridges are incredibly smooth, worn by the hands and grains of a thousand meals as a family's bread was carefully kneaded and worked and kneaded and worked again.

The bowl was handed down thru generations of family. It has a known travel history and gazes out over many major events in the life of family. To begin most recently, its been a focal point in my brother's house for 45 years, always shared at family holidays.

It has visited classrooms to be touched by children learning about Native Americans and was once stroked and hugged at a post funeral gathering, offering a love continuance to a grief stricken family.

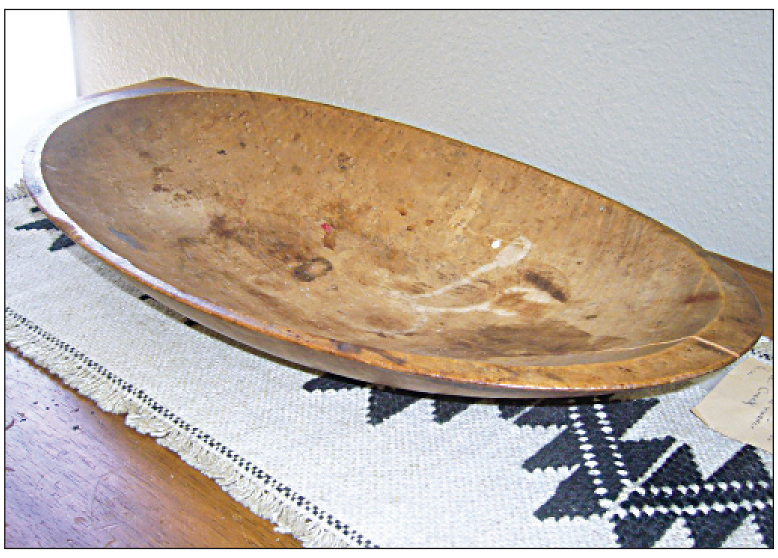
The bowl was given to my brother by our beloved grandmother, Dona Baker Freeman. Grandma didn't call herself a Native American, but she'd been raised by a Creek step-mother from the age of eight, and had married a Creek man. In fact, he was an older brother of her step-mother, so her half-brothers and sisters were her husband's nephews and nieces (but that's another story). The bowl skipped a generation with grandma. It should have been handled down in the mother to daughter to granddaughter tradition, but she had lost her daughter in child birth. It had passed to a grandson, John Windes.

Dona Baker Freeman loved family. She loved to visit, to cook for and to strengthen in anyway possible. Her husband's family was as loved as her own, always to be visited, invited over and defended when necessary. Dona was probably more vocal in singing their praises than her husband Roy, whose Muscogee heritage staged as a man of few words. He was hard working though, always supporting his large brood, while shyly accepting the devotion of his three daughters.

The bowl was a gift to Dona from her mother-in-law, Josephine Howell Freeman. Stories abound about Josie's love of family, of her keen skill as a cook and hostess. An old photograph shows an attractive lady of olive completion and dark hair, standing proudly beside her oldest son Roy. She had birthed twelve children, nine of which she raised to adulthood. Josie was the granddaughter of Red Eagle, also known as William Weatherford. Weatherford's mother, grandmother and great grandmother all shared a common given name, Sehoy. They were the beloved women of the Wind Clan.

So how far back into Josie's heritage does the dough-bowl travel? We will probably never know. It was a gift to Dona about 1930. Josie informed her daughter-in-law it had been in the family forever, a very treasured artifact. Josie lived from 1852 to 1938.

The bowl is not made by machine, it's hand carved. The machine-made dough-bowls became possible after 1850, but our bowl is much older than that. It is in the old style popular with Native Americans from the 1820's on. So did it travel some 400 miles from Louisiana to the Indian Nations when that difficult trek was made? And did it come from old Alabama to Louisiana forty years earlier, in a covered wagon owned by Josie's parents, Dr. William Forbes Howell and wife, Mary Levitia Weatherford?

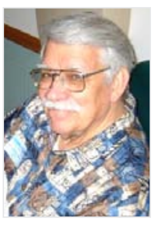


Pictured above is the wooden dough-bowl, vintage 1820, a treasured artifact of Josie Freeman descendants. Linen runner underneath made by Cynthia Bruner, a Muscogee (Creek) citizen.

It is likely, as the vintage workmanship reflects that time period. Did it ever sit on a table in the Little River, Ala., home of the Red Eagle (Billy Weatherford)? I'd like to think so. However, it is enough in that it goes to the humble Hitchita home of Josie Freeman. Her determination to move to the Indian Nations ensured our family would have our Muscogean heritage, which is central to who we are. In her book, NATIVE LAND, Mary Ann Wells speaks of our Native elders and concludes:

"The advice they offer the children remains constant across cultural and racial lines. They say, "REMEMBER." The moral is very simple: The past belongs to us all.

Windes has been an active member of the California Muscogee Creek Association for nearly a decade and is currently serving on the Board as historian. He may be reached at: georgewindes@gmail.com.



2009 CHR Educational Conference

CATOOSA—On Sept. 14-18 there will be the 2009 CHR Educational Conference. The conference will be held at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino located in Catoosa, Okla.

The banquet speaker will be Nicky Solomon, who was the first CHR National Coordinator. Also attending is the current National Coordinator Cathy Stueckeman.

The conference is open to the public. The conference will cover updates on Diabetes, Elder Exercises, the PAK Training, BP/BS Re-certification, Elder abuse/neglect, HIV/AIDS, Cancer in Native Americans, Alzheimer's, Victims Impact Panel and Care for the Caregiver. For more information contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation CHR Program at (918) 623-1925.

Haskell Reunion set for Oct. 9-11, 2009

TULSA—On Oct. 9-11, the Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma invites all Haskell alumni and friends to attended the annual Haskell reunion.

The reunion will be held at the Radisson Inn located at 10918 E. 41st Street near Garnett and 41st Streets in Tulsa, Okla.

For more information contact Flo Spotted Bear at (918) 948-2505.

Fourth annual Okemah Fall Festival Pageant

OKEMAH—The Fourth Annual Fall Pageant will be taking place on October 1, 2009. The Pageant will be held at 7 p.m., in the Okemah High School Auditorium.

The pageant will consist of five divisions such as Miss Fall Festival (16-18), Junior Miss (13-15), Little Miss (10-12), Tiny Miss (6-9) and Wee Miss (3-5).

Deadlines for entry are quickly approaching, all information must be submitted by Sept. 18, 2009. Required documentation includes proof of Creek Citizenship.

Pageant Packet's can be picked up at: Okemah Indian Community 1100 S. Woody Guthrie, Okemah & or by mail or fax

For more info contact: Okemah Indian Community 918-623-9227 or 918-623-9225.

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Eric Anthony Bencoma

WELEETKA — Eric Anthony Bencoma graduated from Weleetka High School.

He participated in football, basketball and track.

He plans on attending college at OSU-Okmulgee and to help raise his son Aiden.

He is the son of Phenie Bencoma and the late Anthony Bencoma.

Grandparents are Marium and Pam Brown, Sarah Winney and Eugene Manley.

He attends Crosstown Pentecostal Church.

Kyle Joseph Bencoma

WELEETKA — Kyle Joseph Bencoma graduated from 9th grade at Weleetka High School.

He is the son of Phenie Bencoma and the late Anthony Bencoma.

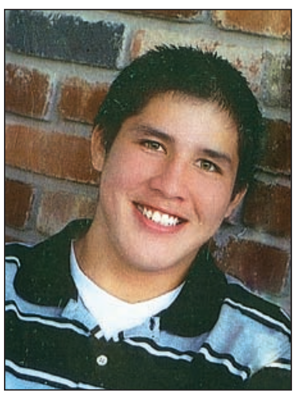
Grandparents are Marium and Pam Brown, Sarah Winney and Eugene Manley.

He attends the First Baptist Church.

He participated in FCA, FCCLA, 4-H, football, basketball, baseball and track.

He plans to finish high school and go to college.

Jared Wesley BigBear



EUFAULA — Jared Wesley BigBear graduated from Eufaula High School where he participated in football as the starting linebacker for the Eufaula Ironheads for three years. He was on the President's Honor Roll for three years.

He is the son of Anita Sue Powell and Joseph BigBear.

Grandparents are the late Vena Mae Randall and Dave Powell and Willie Randall and Annie BigBear.

He is of the Katcv (Tiger) Clan and of the Arbeka Tribal Town.

He plans to attend Haskell Indian Nations University majoring in Physical Education.

Brittany McNac

OKEMAH — Brittany McNac graduated from Okemah High School on May 22. She also attended Wes Watkins Technology Center and passed her C.N.A., July 7, 2009.

She is the daughter of Kim McNac and Ted Kallos.

Grandparents are Louise Roberts and Donnie McNac.

She is of the Deer Clan and of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town.

Cer Harley Scott

OKLAHOMA CITY — Cer Harley Scott graduated from Northwest Classen High School in Oklahoma City in 2005 where he played four years of football with the Knights.

Scott received his Associates Degree from Haskell Indian Nations University in 2009 where he played football his freshman year. He will be returning to Haskell to pursue his Bachelor's Degree this fall and is a member of the Access Club which won the Championship Stickball Tournament at Norman in 2009. He is majoring in Native American Studies with a minor in Art. He has art on display this month at the Muscogee Five Civilized Tribes Museum.

He is the son of Carol Harley and Curtis Scott and Grandparents are Linda Berryhill and the late Alfred Harley and Elouise Scott and the late Rev. Mose Scott. He is of the Katcv (Tiger) Clan.

Matthew Harley Scott

OKLAHOMA CITY — Matthew Harley Scott graduated from Northwest Classen High School in Oklahoma City. He played with the varsity basketball team for four years and the defensive team caption for the Knights football team for four years as well. He received various awards for basketball on the independent teams going out of state and around the state. He was named best hair in his senior class. He is planning to go to college after setting out a year and working.

He is the son of Carol Harley and Curtis Scott.

Grandparents are Linda Berryhill and the late Alfred Harley and Elouise Scott and the late Rev. Mose Scott.

He is of the Katcv (Tiger) Clan.

He is a member of Salt Creek Baptist Church in Wetumka.

BIRTHDAYS

Kaylee Genelle Bemo

SALLISAW — Kaylee Genelle Bemo celebrated her ninth birthday on July 27, 2009.

She is the daughter of Kaila Bemo and J.R. Ross.

She has three siblings, Alexis, Lacy J. and Yonsi.

Grandparents are Vikie Ross and Warren and Doretha Bemo.

She attends Central Elementary School. She participates in basketball and softball. She recently competed in the ASA Eight and Under Girls National Softball Tournament held in Ft. Smith.

She enjoys swimming and shaking shells at stompdances.

Olivia Kay Beaver

OKMULGEE — Olivia Kay Beaver celebrated her first birthday on July 29, with a "Luau" themed party.

She is the daughter of Del and Rhonda Beaver.

She has one sibling, Isaiah Lowe.

Grandparents are the late Lloyd W. Lowe and the late Katherine Summerfield Lowe and R. Perry and Mariam Beaver.

She attends Muscogee (Creek) Nation Childcare.

Avalynn Lorane Cantrell

HENRYETTA — Avalynn Lorane Cantrell affectionately known to family and friends as "Cookie" celebrated her 3rd birthday on August 13. She enjoyed a Disney Princess party.

She is the daughter of Angel and Jared Ellis.

She has two siblings, Jacob and Brighton.

Maternal Grandparents are Timothy Cantrell and Lesa Ackerman. Paternal Grandparent is Terri Stiver.

She began her first year of head start and enjoys playing with her brothers as well as keeping them in line.

Kamistyn Juanita Culley

OKMULGEE — Kamistyn Juanita Culley celebrated her 2nd birthday on July 25th with a "Cars" themed party and celebrated with friends and family at the Okfuskee ceremonial ground.

She is the daughter of Melissa Culley

Grandparents are Irene Culley and the late Farron Culley of Mason.

Great grandparents are Lorene Culley and the late Paul Culley of Wetumka and the late Amos and Juanita Harjochee of Mason.

She is of the Alligator clan and is a member of the Okfuskee Ceremonial Ground.

Daniel Maeson Holmes

TULSA — Daniel Maeson Holmes celebrated his first birthday on July 22, with a "Cars" themed party.

He is the son of Marva Jackson and Derrick Holmes.

He has four siblings, Marissa and Madison Proctor and Chase and Sierra Holmes.

Grandparents are Joe and Flora Jackson and Fogg Holmes and Linda Cabrera.

He is of the Bird Clan.

Irene Felix Parkinson

SAPULPA — Irene Felix Parkinson celebrated her 90th birthday on Aug. 27, with her friends and family.

She is Muscogee (Creek) and Euchee. She was born and raised in Kellyville and now lives in Sapulpa at Berryhill Retirement Apts.

She has one sibling, Sara Whinery.

She has two children, Joye Reynolds and the late Darlene Tate.

She has three grandchildren, Jeff Reynolds, Jennifer Tate and John (Sonny) Tate.

She is most proud of her grandchildren and being Native American.

She attends Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church.

Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:

Roll Number:________________

Phone Number: (___)____________

Name: ______________________________

Address:_____________________________

Date of Birth: ________________________

Theme of the party:____________________

Parents: ____________________________

Siblings: ____________________________

Maternal and Paternal grandparents:

____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:

____

School: _____________________________

Clan: _______________________________

Tribal Town:__________________________

Birth:

Roll Number:________________

Phone Number: (___)____________

Name: ______________________________

Address:_____________________________

Date of Birth: ________________________

Name of Hospital: _____________________

Weight: _____ pounds _____ ounces_____inches

Parents: ____________________________

Siblings: ____________________________

Maternal and Paternal grandparents:

____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:

____

Clan: _______________________________

Tribal Town:__________________________

Announcements:

Roll Number:________________

Phone Number: (___)____________

Name: ______________________________

Address:_____________________________

Parents: ____________________________

Siblings: ____________________________

Maternal and Paternal grandparents:

____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:

____

Clan: _______________________________

Tribal Town:__________________________

Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Community Calendar

• Mankiller to give keynote at OU NAS Symposium Oct. 2, 2009

NORMAN — The Native American Studies program in the College of Arts and Sciences at The University of Oklahoma will host its annual Symposium on American Indian Studies on October 2, 2009 at the National Weather Center.

Wilma Mankiller, former Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, will present the keynote address to invited faculty, students, administrators and guests from various Indian Studies programs, tribal governments, public schools and businesses across Oklahoma.

The theme for this year's symposium is "American Indian Studies in Context" which emphasizes a trend of Indian Studies reform and refinement. Topics to be addressed under this theme include Indian Studies curriculum offerings, student preparation and achievement, Indian Studies research, instruction, and community services.

Indian Studies faculty and students from OU and throughout the state's colleges and universities have been invited to present papers/panels. Other invited speakers include Tom Holm, professor emeritus, University of Arizona; Henrietta Mann, President, Cheyenne/Arapaho Tribal College; Todd Fuller, President, Pawnee Nation College; Hugh Foley, Rogers State College; Lee Hester, University of Science and Arts; Joe Bohanon, Bacone College; Richard Allen, Cherokee Nation; Linda Sue Warner, President, Haskell Indian Nations University and Dr. Joe Watkins, Director, Native American Studies, University of Oklahoma. The public is welcome.

For more information or to pre-register, please call (405) 325-2312. Registration is $75 for the public and $25 for students, which covers the luncheon and materials.

• 'Right to Bear Arms' churches meeting

OKMULGEE—The "Right to Bear Arms" churches meeting will be Sept. 11, 2009 and will feature Thompson Gouge and George Schafer beginning at 7 p.m. Admission is free both days and participants are asked to bring their own lawn chairs. Food vendors will be on-site.

Sept. 12, featured speakers will include Pastor Robert Lay, Sr., the Heaven Proclaimer, Pastor Jack Vance, Youth Group, Brad Campbell, Revealators, Teacher Junior Wolf and Second Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Alfred Berryhill.

For more information, please contact Robert Lay at (918) 652-5340.

• Family of (Creek) soldiers killed in action

OKMULGEE — It is requested that family members of Muscogee (Creek) soldiers Killed In Action during World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam kindly contact the Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO) to provide the following: name of the Muscogee (Creek) soldier, verification of citizen, killed in action verification, birth date, service branch and killed in action date.

The requested purpose of this information is to publicly honor and recognize our tribal soldiers in the Veterans affairs Services Office (VASO) Memorial Courtyard.

For more information or assistance please contact Ken Davis, Manager at (918) 732-7739 or by e-mail at kdavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov or contact Shawn Taryole, Assistant at (918) 732-7745 or by e-mail at staryole @ muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Fields' poem published

• CMN student's "Beloved Stomp Dance" gets top reviews

by Lee Longhorn
MNN Intern

OKMULGEE — The genre "American Indian Literature," may be a small category but continues to grow with the addition of each new aspiring American Indian writer. A new name that will be added to this list is award-winning poet and College of the Muscogee Nation student Tricia Fields.

Fields, who is a member of the Yuchi Ceremonial Ground, Polecat., was recently awarded Honorable Mention at the American Indian Higher Education Consortium Student Conference writing competition for her poem, entitled "Beloved Stomp Dance."

"The Tribal College Journal," a quarterly magazine covering tribal college news and research, printed the top three and the honorable mention winners in their 20th anniversary edition. The top 10 entries were published on "the Tribal College Journal's Web site.

Field's recently published work is a descriptive poem detailing visuals of a Yuchi/Creek stomp dance. The stomp dance, affiliated with the Green Corn Ceremony, is a musical dance that involves both men and women dancing counterclockwise around a fire. The lyrics are voiced by the men in a call and response format.

The women support the tempo with the percussion sounds they produce by wearing turtle shell or metal can leggings. Field's personal memories of stomp dance helped her write her award-winning piece.

"Hearing them sing the songs, the rhythm of the turtle shells and cans...it's just so pretty when you're out there dancing," continues Fields, "the little embers fly from the fire and it seems that they're dancing with everyone. It's such a pretty sight."

Her influence for her work comes from reading and studying the works of other American Indian authors such as Sherman Alexie, Joy Harjo, Sterlin Harjo, and N. Scott Momaday, among others. Her personal inspiration for writing comes from her grandparents, the late Woodrow Haney and Pauline Haney, native story tellers who traveled around sharing traditional stories to adults and children. Fields enjoys writing poetry and short stories with Native content and languages incorporated in her work.

Hoping to inspire other up-and-coming Native authors, Fields says, "I hope to inspire others to write down their stories that they know or that are given to them and to share with others."

What began as a hobby, Fields turned it into a passion. After the recent acknowledgement of her poem, Fields will continue to write. Currently, Fields is a student at the College of the Muscogee Nation and Oklahoma State University in Okmulgee studying Tribal Services, Muscogee Language, and Native American Studies. A shellshaker and southern cloth dancer, from the Yuchi, Muscogee (Creek), Pawnee, Chickasaw, and Choctaw tribes, fields is a promising writer and will make a great addition to the list American Indian authors.

"I hope to inspire others to write down their stories that they know or that are given to them to share with others."

- Patricia Fields, College of the Muscogee Nation student

ATTENTION!!!

To all members and employees of Muscogee (Creek) Nation **Blue Ribbon Chevrolet** of Okmulgee is starting a program
that entitles all Creek Nation employees and members to a special discount program on all new cars, trucks and SUVs.
All will be at supplier pricing, which is the same as if Creek Nation was buying them.
This is for qualified buyers with approved credit.

Also a discount on all our used cars, trucks, and SUVs. It has been a great experience for **Blue Ribbon Chevrolet** to do
business with Muscogee Creek Nation through the years and we would like to show our appreciation.
We also have a program for some that might have credit problems, to get them in a new or used car, truck or SUVs
with little money down. This will help start to re-build your credit for the future,
we will do everything possible to help to get your credit approved.

Also a discount in our service department like:
Ladies Day, Oil changes on every Thursday for $20.95 for every one.
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Mvto! From all the people at **Blue Ribbon Chevrolet**
The dealer of the future for Okmulgee County, We are here to help.
Must show Citizenship card or Employee badge for this program.

Please contact our Fleet Manager, Danny Fults at (918)756-1582
or come by our showroom for a visit - Where the coffee is always on!

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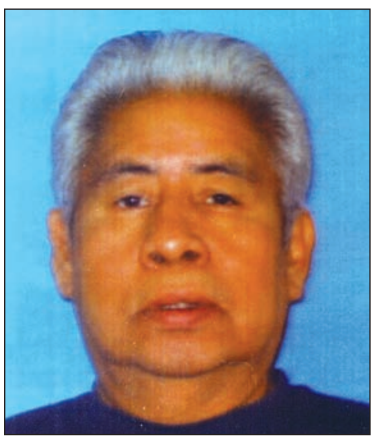


TULSA — Dave Jackson, born July 24, 1944 in Hanna died August 19, 2009 at the VA hospital in Oklahoma City. Services were August 24, 2009 at Faith Baptist in Dustin. He was a self-employed plumber until his health began to fail in 2000.

He is survived by his wife, Glynna B. Sareezy Jackson of the home, two sons Dave Jr. and Everett Jackson and six step-children, Anice Seuffert, Kelly Hambery, Mischelle James, Barbara Myers, Glynnis and Bobby Joe Johnson.

Dave is preceded in death by his mother and father Alice and Samuel Jackson and his sister Gladys Harjo. He is survived by sisters Edna and Geneva Jackson, and has 28 grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Burial was at the family cemetery in Hanna, Okla.

GLADYS LANDSBERRY

OKMULGEE — Gladys Landsberry, a resident of Okmulgee, Okla., went to be with her lord on Friday, July 24, 2009 at the age 81. She was born November 16, 1927 to Watty and Bertha (Fisher) Albert in Weleetka, Okla. She was member of Thlopthlocco Tribal Town and the Wind Clan.

Gladys enjoyed reading, sewing, beading, going to garage sales and could be occasionally seen at the casinos. Gladys served as a security guard at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation complex under the Claude Cox Administration. She was a member of the Arbeka Baptist Church and the VFW Ladies Auxiliary.

She is survived by three daughters: Linda Lee Schmuck and husband Richard of Spiro, Okla., Mariah Helen Lee and husband James of Tulsa, Okla., and Mary Ann Taylor and companion Joseph “Joki” Pope of Okmulgee, Okla. Her four sons include: Barney Ingram and wife Ruth of Okmulgee, Okla., Jack “Kye” Landsberry Jr., and wife Toni of Glenpool, Okla., Alvin Landsberry of the home in Okmulgee and Steven Landsberry of Mounds, Okla.

Siblings include brother Virgil Prince Albert of Tucson, Ariz., and Sue White of Okmulgee.

She had 21 grandchildren, several great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren along with a host of family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband Jack Sr., three sons: Robert, Charles and Gary and three sisters: Lillian Leybas, Nancy Kaler and Joann Daggett.

ELOUISE SCOTT

TULSA — Elouise Scott was born June 12, 1935 to George Tiger and Lizzie West Tiger and passed from this life on July 23 at the Saint Francis Hospital in Tulsa at the age of 74.

Elouise was raised in Okfuskee County and first attended Bigham School. She later attended Eufaula Boarding School before finally transferring to Haskeel Boarding School in Lawrence, Kan., where she graduated high school. She returned to Oklahoma and was working in Oklahoma City when she met Mose Scott while he was serving in the United States Army. They were later married and made their home in the Okemah area most of their life. She is remembered as a loving wife, mother, and homemaker.

In the late 1960s her husband entered the ministry. She served with him while he pastored the Salt Creek Indian Baptist Church for many years. Mrs. Scott filled several offices in the church such as Sunday School teacher and was a well known women’s leader. She was a faithful Christian until the end.

She enjoyed sewing, crocheting, cooking and working puzzles. She was one of a few devoted elders of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town and was fluent in the Muscogee/Creek language.

Survivors include her children: George Scott of Okemah, Gwen Espinosa and husband Sesar of Oklahoma City, Alan Scott and wife Marcie of Wewoka, Curtis Scott of Oklahoma City, Rose Scott of Glenpool, Julie Sharp and husband Dug of Okemah, and Elliott Scott and wife Michelle of Yukon; 19 grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren, 4 nephews, four nieces, other relatives, and many friends.

Funeral Services were held at Salt Creek Indian Baptist Church. Interment was held at Salt Creek Cemetery under the direction of Williamson-Spradlin Funeral Home.

ANNA TIGER

STILLWELL — Anna Pauline Sunday Tiger, 77, a retired beautician was born in the West Peavine Community in Stillwell on March 7, 1932. She passed from this life on July 22, 2009.

She was the daughter of Maude and the late Rev. Alex Sunday of Tulsa. She is preceded by them in passing, along with other family members; brother Dennis, son Timothy, grand daughter Martha Lynn, and great grand son “Tre.”

Surviving mom’s passing is her twins Karon Jayne – Karl Wayae and sons Paul and Cherokee.

Mom will forever be deeply missed by all her precious family members, her “Carolina Girls” - Quiana, Vanessa, and all her grand children as well as great grand children and her friends within her life and our lifetime.

The Tiger family would like to extend our deepest appreciation for the thoughts and prayers at this grieving time. God bless each and every one of you.

Thank you also to Muscogee Nation News for the publication of my dear mom’s passing.

ASHLEY WATASHE

KELLYVILLE — Ashley Marie Watashe passed away July 13, 2009. She was born April 15, 1986, at Claremore Indian Hospital to Soloman and Frances Watashe of Kellyville. She resided in Kellyville all of her life and graduated from Kellyville High School in 2005.

Ashley loved playing softball, basketball, cheerleading, and running track. She was a member of Polecat Ceremonial Ground, Native American Church, and Community Indian Baptist Church.

Ashley was proceeded in death by her grandparents, Martha “Tootsie” Watashe, Juanita “Sophie” Brown, James D. Brown, and Kenneth Peyketewa Sr.; her uncle Willie Paul “Bugsy” Peyketewa and her cousins Shafa Peyketewa and Kimberly Proctor.

Survivors include Soloman and Frances Watashe; brother Soloman Jr. and wife, Melissa; two nephews, Nathaniel and Soloman III, and niece, Yah-pon-na, all of the home; boyfriend Brandon Wilkerson; grandfather Roman Watashe; uncles, Ben Watashe, Kenny Marshall, Eli Marshall, Floyd Marshal Jr., Kenneth Peyetewa, Jr., and John “Peck” Peyketewa, and many relatives and friends.

A wake service was held at the Community Indian Baptist Church on July 15 with Funeral Services on July 16 at Smith Funeral Home with the Rev. Truett Johns and the Rev. Willie McKaslin officiating. Interment was at the family cemetery under the direction of Smith Funeral Home.

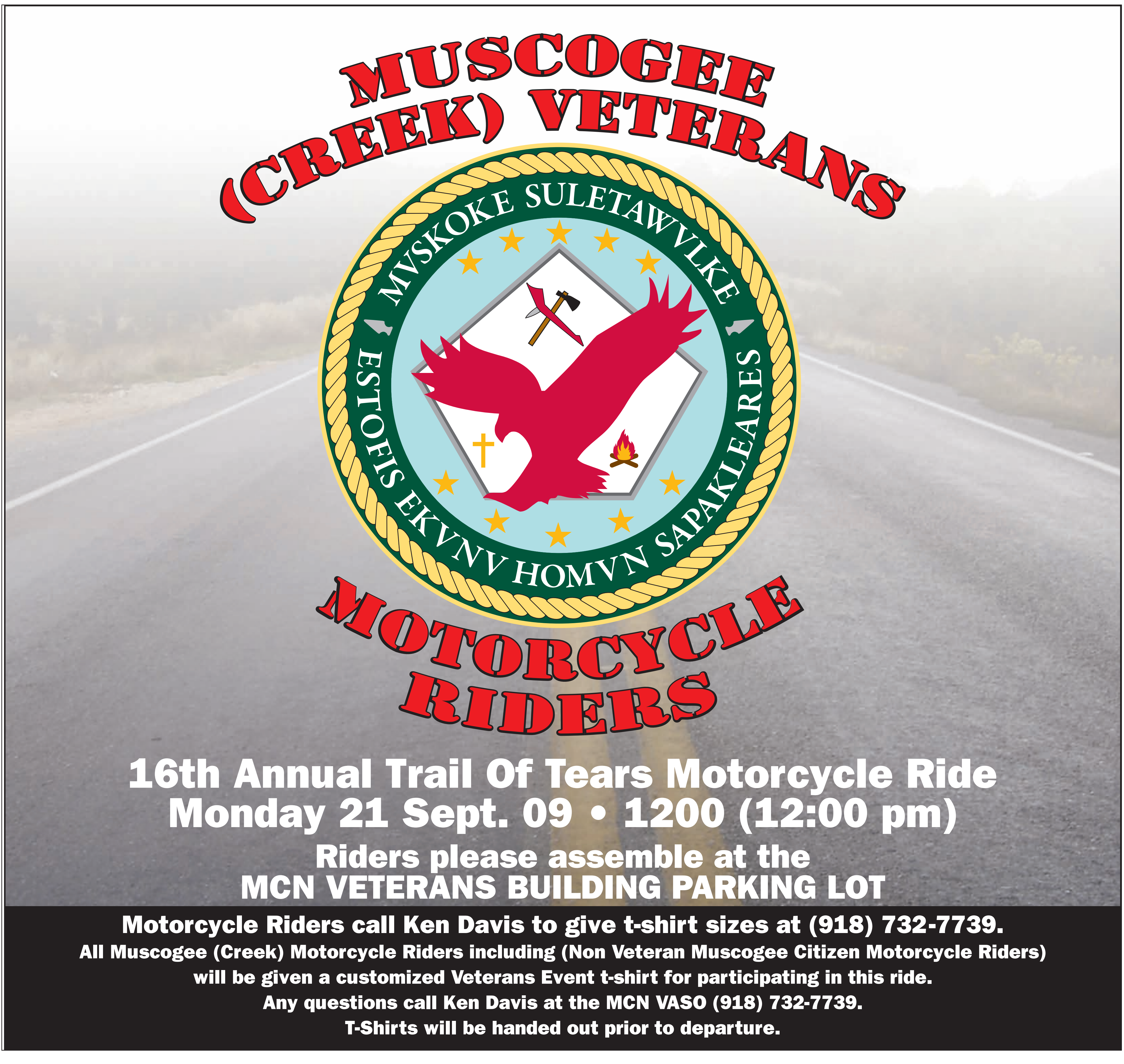
Pallbearers include Jason Dennison, Cory “Cibo” Anderson, Alex Dennison, Amy Watashe, Josh Bearpaw, and Raymond Bearpaw. Honorary pallbearers were Brandon Wilkerson, Jimmy Baker,

Mvto,

- Michael Watashe and Jason

THANK YOU

KELLYVILLE — The Family of Ashley Watashe would like to thank the Community Indian Baptist Church, Native American Church, Euchee Ceremonial Grounds, Dripping Springs Church and everyone who helped, donated, and all the prayers and kind words you gave us during our time of sorrow. We greatly appreciated everything that was done.



MUSCOGEE (CREEK) VETERANS

MOTORCYCLE RIDERS

16th Annual Trail Of Tears Motorcycle Ride
Monday 21 Sept. 09 • 1200 (12:00 pm)

Riders please assemble at the
MCN VETERANS BUILDING PARKING LOT

Motorcycle Riders call Ken Davis to give t-shirt sizes at (918) 732-7739.
All Muscogee (Creek) Motorcycle Riders including (Non Veteran Muscogee Citizen Motorcycle Riders) will be given a customized Veterans Event t-shirt for participating in this ride.
Any questions call Ken Davis at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7739.
T-Shirts will be handed out prior to departure.

‘Creek Warrior’ makes a comeback

• B.J. Waggnor returns to the ring Oct. 3, 2009

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

OKMULGEE — The return of the ‘Creek Warrior’ will take place Saturday, Oct. 3, 2009, as B.J. Waggoner, who has gained local notoreity as a boxing icon, returns to the ring at the Panther Dome in Okemah, Okla.

Waggnor, who garnerd a successful amateur and professional career in the ring, has decided to come out of retirement and is now training out of ‘Everlasting Life’ Boxing Gym in Wetumka, Okla., under the guidance of Owner / Pastor Bo Gibbs who also serves as coordinator of the Okemah fight event which features the ‘Creek Warrior’ in a four-round exhibition.

It has been six years since Waggnor stepped into the ring, and at that time, he felt that fight would be his last. Waggnor stepped into the ‘civilian’ life, so to speak, and away from professional boxing,... until now. Waggnor is back, and with a vengeance. He feels that there is some unfinished business in his career and he wants to make sure that is all taken care of.

“I am the best Native American fighter out there,” says Waggnor, “and I want to show people the ‘Creek Warrior’ is back.”

The decision to make a comeback wasn’t all that difficult for Waggnor. After all, his personal heritage in the ring is a storied one. Waggnor started boxing at the age of seven and his first bout introduced him to the tough realities of the sport.

“I lost my first fight,” says Waggnor, who recalls how much dedication it really takes, even at such a young age. The loss would only help fuel the fire in the young fighter and he would keep going, “after that, I didn’t lose again for two years.”

Waggnor would eventually win an astounding 600 amateur fights including Golden Gloves Champion seven times as well as being honored as a seven-time state and USA Boxing Champion.

Waggnor’s early motivation to get into the ring wasn’t love for the sport boxing, at least at first.

“My sister had a bunch of trophies for soccer and swimming, so I wanted to get into a sport and win some too,” laughs Waggnor who also mentions that watching his uncle who was a boxer too, motivated him as well.

In October 2003, Waggnor had a record of 5-0 and decided to walk away from it all, convinced at the time he was finished with the sport that had brought him many awards as well as a recognition and celebrity status.

But even with the announcement, people would still ask BJ about boxing and if he would ever return. It’s difficult to not talk about Oklahoma Indian Boxing and not mention the name BJ Waggnor who has brought much pride and recognition for Native Americans who love the sport of Boxing.

Another motivation for the Creek Warrior to return to the ring is to also win a professional title, specifically the Native American Boxing Council’s Super Middleweight Title.

Currently the title holder is George ‘Comanche Boy’ Tahdooahnippah of Lawton, who boasts a record of 20 wins, no losses and one draw. Waggnor hopes that at least two tune-up fights will prepare him for a title shot against the ‘Comanche Boy.”

The boxing card at Okemah also features Bo Gibbs, Jr., who just returned from the Golden Gloves Tournament in Kansas City where he is now ranked third in the world in amateur status.

“We also have some other fighters who are champions that will be fighting on the card also, so if you haven’t seen good boxing, you are in for a treat!” said Pastor Gibbs.

For ticket information call (918) 623-9227.

MOVIE NIGHT!

ATTN: UNITED STATES NAVY VETERANS

In Honor of Muscogee Veterans
the VASO will be hosting
“MOVIE NIGHT”
(Thursday, 15 Oct 2009)
To Celebrate The Birth Month Of The United States Navy
(13 October 1775)

• Showtime - 1800 Hrs. - Thursday, 15 October 2009
• Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
• Movie - **THE BRIDGES AT TOKO-RI (with William Holden, Grace Kelly and Mickey Rooney)**
• Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
• Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
• Smoking Lamp is Lit
• Price of Admission - Navy Veterans must wear their MCN Veterans Vest
(If you do not have a vest bring in your DD-214 to be measured for a MCN Veterans vest).
• Muscogee Navy Veterans are now allowed to bring one guest (Please limit to only one guest)
• **“Movie Night”** is for Muscogee Veterans only (Plus one guest)
• Any questions call Shawn Taryole at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7745

ADVERTISEMENT

The District Court filings from May 1, 2009 through May 30, 2009 are as follows (continued from A2):

MCN v. Cassandra Harley	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
MCN v. William Burney	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Ryan Hicks	Ct. 1: Rape
MCN v. Brian Woodlard	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Dustin Bible	Ct. 1: Larceny
MCN v. Shawn Tyndall	Ct. 1: Embezzlement
MCN v. Gregory Bruner	Ct. 1: Larceny
MCN v. Tonya Legrand	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Phillip Mills	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Kennon Charles	Ct. 1: Larceny

Traffic:

MCN v. Raychel Foster	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Raychel Foster	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Raychel Foster	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Sammy Perryman	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning, Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Nicholas Blackburn	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Christopher Oliver	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Karolyn Harris	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Karolyn Harris	Ct. 1: Expired Tag

MCN v. Alvin White	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Gregory VanBoren	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning, Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Christopher Fitzhugh	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Christopher Fitzhugh	Ct. 1: Possession of alcohol on Tribal Property
MCN v. Terry Deshazer	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning, Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Maxey Cory	Ct. 1: Trespass
MCN v. John Richmond	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Carlos Cruz-Sovero	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Carlos Cruz-Sovero	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Charles Lambert	Ct. 1: No Driver's License
MCN v. Gordon Brook	Ct. 1: Driving Under Suspension
MCN v. Malachi Brown	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Malachi Brown	Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
MCN v. Cherl Howery	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Nathaniel Elbert	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Nathaniel Elbert	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Hector Arrayo-Velez	Ct. 1: No Tag
MCN v. Billy Cross	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Sherry Rice	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Sherry Rice	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Jerry Stewart	Ct. 1: Trespassing
MCN v. Laura Southern	Ct. 1: Expired Driver's License
MCN v. Gena Trott	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Patrick Orbison	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Lloyd Strickland	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Nickolis Powell	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Robert Sisk	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Carolyn Turner	Ct. 1: No Tag
MCN v. Carolyn Turner	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Carolyn Turner	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Arturo Ponce-Rascom	Ct. 1: No Driver's License
MCN v. Arturo Ponce-Rascom	Ct. 1: Duties in Event of an Accident
MCN v. Dawn Johnson	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Robert Patterson	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. William Jenson	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Mark Odom	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Tommy Victory	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Joshua Walker	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Joshua Walker	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. William Burney	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Tonya Legrand	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Phillip Mills	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Kennon Charles	Ct. 1: Larceny

Traffic:

MCN v. Raychel Foster	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Raychel Foster	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Raychel Foster	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Sammy Perryman	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning, Stopping without Regard to Safety

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The Gathering of California's Muscogee (Creek) Nation Association

The location of this event is:
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Chapel
Huntington Park West Stake Center
3115 S. Vermont Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90007

All are Welcome!!

Saturday, October 10, 2009
Noon - 5 p.m.

Please spread the news!!

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis is our Special Guest

This is your opportunity to meet and other Creeks in California and get information about Muscogee (Creek) Nation services that are available to you and your family.

Come out and learn about the Constitutional Amendments on the ballot.

We invite any and all National Council Representatives to come out and join us.
All National Council candidates are invited to give a presentation.
This is not a debate forum.

This is a pot luck event so
please bring your favorite dish to share

For more information contact: Eli Grayson @ (760)534-1632 or eligrayson@hotmail.com

OTOWOSKUCE — LITTLE CHESTNUT MONTH

THE MNN

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Volume 2, Issue 8 www.themuscogeecreeknation.com September 2009

Rebecca Landsberry

Letter from the Editor:

Hensci readers! It's a little quiet here at the office without the *MNN* interns Tiffany Harris and Lee Longhorn asking questions which often require responses I have to look up in my 2004 AP Stylebook (even though it's not a 2009 edition, Lee).

I will definitely miss the enthusiasm, ideas and inspiration they brought to the newsroom, at least until next summer! I have noticed the aspirations of the young help to reignite the passion for what we (I won't call myself old just yet) do and young, active minds help bring a fresh perspective to communication, on both a personal and professional level.

As events go, the Trail of Tears Remembrance Riders will be traveling all the way from Chatanooga, Tenn., to our capitol here in Okmulgee, in order to honor our lost ancestors on the Trail of Tears and their living descendants here in Oklahoma.

The "Warm Mvskoke Welcome" Committee has planned a reception for riders that will include entertainment, drinks and freshly-sliced Hanna watermelon. There will also be a special veteran welcome beginning in Checotah, Okla., at noon coordinated by MCN VASO. For more information on the event, contact Vicky Karhu at (918) 756-5915. For the veteran's reception, contact Ken Davis at (918) 732-7739.

And don't forget to vote Sept. 19!

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

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- 2009 Candidate Profiles

Mahenwahdose's "The Fearless Honkah Hunters"

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GATHERING SET FOR SATURDAY, OCT. 24, 2009 AT HISTORIC

COUNCIL OAK TREE PARK

by Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

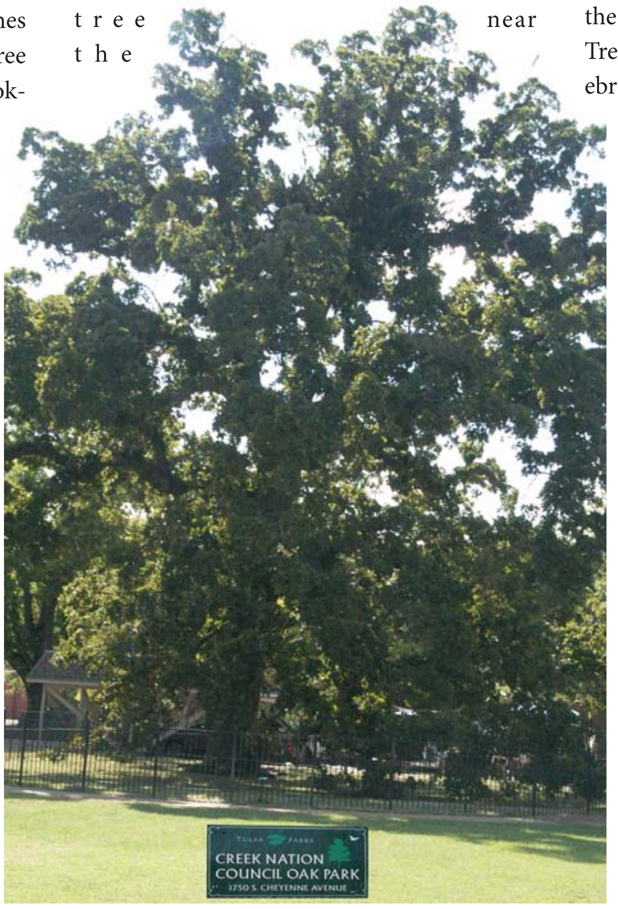
TVLSE - Approximately 177 years ago, the first Muscogee Creeks traveled across the land on what has now become known as the Trail of Tears. They brought with them ashes of sacred ceremonial fires from the ancestral homelands in the southeast and these ashes were spread beneath the towering oak tree (now known as the Council Oak) overlooking the Arkansas River. This became the chosen site to establish the Loca Pokv Tribal town, which later became the city of Tvlse.

At 2 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 24, Mvskoke people will come together once again to celebrate the historic meeting held at Council Oak each year helping to remind citizens of the struggles and successes the Nation has survived in the past.

The Council Oak Tree, located across the street from the new Stickball Park, remains a lasting symbol of the city's Native American history and its embrace of multiculturalism. Like the Creek ceremonial grounds, the tree has withstood a few storms over the last century, but remains strong.

In 1832, tribes living in the southeast begun their forced migration from Alabama under orders from the U.S. government.

In 1836, a group of Creeks, along with members from the Choctaw, Cherokee, Chickasaw and Seminole tribes, found the end of their Trail of Tears. As they sought shelter under an expansive oak tree near the Arkansas River, the Creeks decided to make this piece of Indian Territory their own, lighting a ceremonial fire and naming the land "Tallahassee" or "Tulsi."



In 2007, the state of Oklahoma named the Council Oak Tree an official "Witness Tree" as part of the state's centennial celebration.

Both the park and the tree are often referred to as Tulsa's first city hall. The Tulsa-Lochapoka no longer exist today, however, the site continues to be the annual meeting place of the sixteen remaining ceremonial grounds including Alabama, Arbeka, Duck Creek, Fish Pond, Green Leaf, Hickory Ground, Hillabee, Kellyville (Pole Cat), New Tulsa, Nuyaka, Okfuskee, Peach Ground, Sand Creek (Iron Post), Tallahassee Cromwell, Tallahassee Wykokaye and Weogufkee.

COUNCIL OAK GATHERING
When: Saturday, Oct. 24, 2009
2 p.m.
Where:18th Street at South
Cheyenne in Tvlse, Okla.
Contact: Tulsa Creek Indian
Community Center
(918) 298-2464

Deadline for OIC Fall Festival Pageant set for Friday, Sept. 18

Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

OKEMAH—The Okemah Indian Community will be kicking off the fourth annual Fall Festival Sept. 30 - Oct. 3, 2009. On September 30, at 7p.m.starting with a community dinner and followed by a gospel singing.

The Miss Fall Harvest Festival Pageant will be held Thursday, Oct. 1 at 7 p.m., at the Okemah High School Auditorium. Deadline for entry is Friday, Sept. 18, 2009. Participants must have proof of Creek citizenship and pageant packets may be picked up at the Okemah Indian Community Center and may be returned by mail or fax. A ceremonial dance will be performed on Friday, Oct. 2, followed by the Golf Tournament at the Okemah Golf Course beginning at 8 a.m., on Saturday, Oct. 3. The 5-on-5 Basketball Tournament will begin at 9 a.m., at the Okemah Middle School Gymnasium and Multi-purpose building. The entry fee per team for is $75 and registration deadline is Sept. 25 (after deadline cost is $100 per team). Day of tournament registration will begin on Saturday, Oct. 3, at 8 a.m., with games beginning at 9 a.m. For more information, please contact Toney Lee at (918) 304-7192 or Kara Lee at (918) 716-0343. Also beginning at 9 a.m., will be the Co-ed Volleyball Tournament. For more information, please contact Sharon Hicks at (918) 623-6799.

The deadline for entry to the Rodeo is set for Monday, Sept. 28. For more information, contact Kyle Robinson at (918) 916-9089.

Sr. Bingo will begin Oct. 3 from 10 a.m.-noon and a horseshoe tournament will begin at 9 a.m. For more information, contact Sunnie Marshall at (918) 623-9227 or the Okemah Indian Community Center.

Ballot for General Election to include constitutional amendments

Media Release
MCN Election Board

OKMULGEE — General and special elections are set for Nov. 7, 2009. During the General Election, the National Council candidates and the Constitutional Amendments will be voted on the same ballot.

Precinct and Absentee Registration will re-open for the General and Special Election on September 24, 2009 at 5 p.m.

Absentee ballots will be mailed on October 19, 2009 and precinct registration will close October 28, 2009 at 5 p.m.

For more information, contact the MCN Election Board Office at (918) 732-7684.

Muscogee Nation News
STAFF
Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
Senior Writer - Angel Ellis
Cultural Reporter - Ruth Bible
Reporter - Starla Bush
Reporter - Joshua Slane
Feature Writer - Gerald Wofford
Sports Writer - Jason Salsman
Graphic Design - Carla Brown
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Graphic Design - Tyler Roberds
Circulation - Wilma Murphy

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News*** unless other copyrights are shown.

Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Rep. Alexander continues debate regarding tribal travel expenditures

by Sam Alexander
MCN National Council Representative

OKMULGEE — Although my comments in a letter concerning travel expenses were liberally referenced in Chief Ellis' published response, the reader is uninformed about those comments because they were not provided. While such an omission passes for journalism in Okmulgee, some clarification might be useful.

"For a CPA he missed several details concerning my travel expense report." Nothing was missed; the new data was never sent to the legislative offices. According to the accounting method adopted by the tribe, costs incurred in April belong in April's reporting regardless of when paid. The April reporting is incorrect and flawed.

The original focus was the Principal Chief, who possesses absolutely no authority in tribal gaming, suggesting his trip to Phoenix to consult with NIGC officials cost $198. The $723 reporting error was misleading made and admitted.

The response also revealed inexcusable trip planning absent hotel arrangements with a pathetic rationalization a college sophomore might conceive. Unfortunately a tribal executive with the foresight to arrange for lodging some 700 miles away from his home experienced an unnecessary and uncalled for inconvenience.

In summary, there were no accusations of careless spending. The issue was and is deceptive and incorrect administrative reporting of executive travel costs while attempting to showcase National Council travel expenditures. In short, the CPA didn't miss a thing.

The District Court filings from May 1, 2009 through May 30, 2009 are as follows (continued from Sept. MNN):

MCN v. Nicholas Blackburn	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Christopher Oliver	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Karolyn Harris	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Karolyn Harris	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Alvin White	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Gregory VanBoren	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning, Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Christopher Fitzhugh	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Christopher Fitzhugh	Ct. 1: Possession of alcohol on Tribal Property
MCN v. Terry Deshazer	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning, Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Maxey Cory	Ct. 1: Trespass
MCN v. John Richmond	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Carlos Cruz-Sovero	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Carlos Cruz-Sovero	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Charles Lambert	Ct. 1: No Driver's License
MCN v. Gordon Brook	Ct. 1: Driving Under Suspension
MCN v. Malachi Brown	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
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MCN v. Cherl Howery	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
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MCN v. Billy Cross	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
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MCN v. Sherry Rice	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Jerry Stewart	Ct. 1: Trespassing
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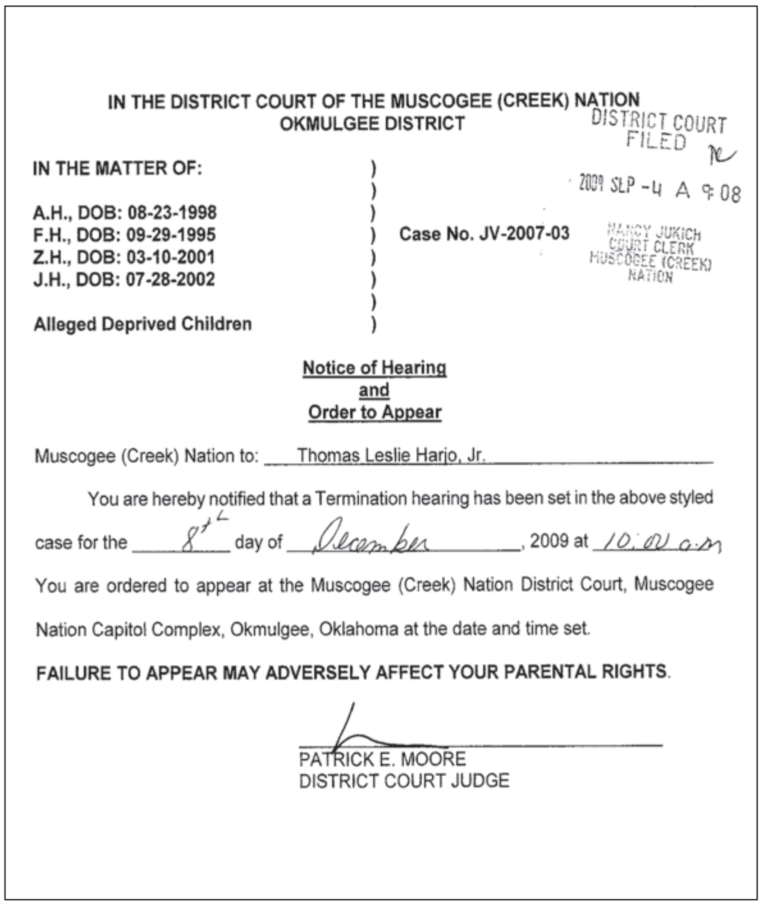
MCN v. Carolyn Turner	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Arturo Ponce-Rascom	Ct. 1: No Driver's License
MCN v. Arturo Ponce-Rascom	Ct. 1: Duties in Event of an Accident
MCN v. Dawn Johnson	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Robert Patterson	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. William Jenson	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Mark Odom	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Tommy Victory	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Joshua Walker	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Joshua Walker	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. William Burney	Ct. 1: DUS



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 SEP -4 A 9:08
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
A.H., DOB: 08-23-1998)
F.H., DOB: 09-29-1995) Case No. JV-2007-03
Z.H., DOB: 03-10-2001)
J.H., DOB: 07-28-2002)
)
Alleged Deprived Children)

Notice of Hearing
and
Order to Appear

Muscogee (Creek) Nation to: Thomas Leslie Harjo, Jr.

You are hereby notified that a Termination hearing has been set in the above styled case for the 8th day of December, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

You are ordered to appear at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Muscogee Nation Capitol Complex, Okmulgee, Oklahoma at the date and time set.

FAILURE TO APPEAR MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS.

PATRICK E. MOORE
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

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2008 - 2009

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SHIRLENE ADE
507 E. 5TH St.
Holdenville, OK 74848
(H) 405-379-3253
(F) 405-379-3253
(C) 918-520-8166

TERRIE ANDERSON
17565 Redbud Lane
Morris, OK 74445
(F) 918-733-1377
(C) 918-237-1417

SAMUEL ALEXANDER
117 W. Miami St.
Broken Arrow, OK 74011
(W) 918-485-2733
(F) 918-485-3666
(C) 918-510-4658

ROGER BARNETT
35685 W. 191st. South
Bristow, OK 74010
(F) 918-367-3964
(C) 918-520-9164

PETE BEAVER
105 W. 83RD St. SOUTH
Muskogee, OK 74401
(H) 918-687-1260
(F) 918-683-2943
(C) 918-510-4609

STEVE BRUNER
11426 S. 129th E. Ave
Broken Arrow, OK 74011
(H) 918-451-7489
(F) 918-455-0870
(C) 918-671-1109

LARRY CAHWEE
PO Box 455
Kellyville, OK 74039
(F) 918-247-7936
(C) 918-384-8427

RONALD CLEGHORN
1620 S. Elwood # L-21
Tulsa, OK 74119
(F) 918-756-6812
(C) 918-520-9154

SELINA JAYNE-DORNAN
HC 63 Box 249W
Eufaula, OK 74432
(H) 918-689-7441
(F) 918-618-4302
(C) 918-237-9659

BILL S. FIFE
P.O. Box 390096
Dustin, OK 74839
(H) 918-656-3469
(C) 918-510-4636

JOHNNIE L. GREENE
34461 E. 151st S.
Coweta, OK 74429
(H) 918-486-2267
(W) 918-607-0535
(F) 918-486-2269
(C) 918-520-7027

DAVID HILL
PO Box 85
Depew, OK 74028
(H) 918-324-5798
(F) 918-324-5499
(C) 918-384-9126

ROBERT HUFFT
2006 W. H Street
Jenks, OK 74037
(F) 918-518-6632
(C) 918-384-9063

JAMES JENNINGS
820 N. Collins
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(H) 918-756-8224
(F) 918-756-8224
(C) 918-510-4661

KEEPER JOHNSON
807 N. Hughes
Morris, OK 74445
(H) 918-733-2360
(F) 918-733-2360
(C) 918-694-2846

ADAM JONES III
HC 64 Box 3866
Eufaula, OK 74432
(F) 918-689-2838
(C) 918-384-9139

EDDIE LaGRONE
717 Terrace Blvd.
Muskogee, OK 74401
(H) 918-683-9423
(C) 918-510-4629

KARA MEDINA
673 E. 135th Pl.
Glenpool, OK 74033
(H) 918-291-0084
(F) 918-756-6812
(C) 918-403-9420

DAVID NICHOLS
1770 S. Madison Ave.
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(H) 918-756-8630
(F) 918-756-6703
(C) 918-384-8573

DARRELL PROCTOR
Rt. 1 Box 28 A
Hanna, OK 74845
(H) 918-657-2246
(F) 918-657-2246
(C) 918-384-8528

CHERRAH QUIETT
2966 W. 66th ST.
Tulsa, OK 74132
(H) 918-445-4947
(F) 918-445-4947
(C) 918-520-9161

TRAVIS SCOTT
1014 E. Broadway
Okemah, OK 74859
(H) 918-623-0150
(F) 918-623-0150
(C) 918-520-6149

CARMIN TECUMSEH
702 Timbercrest Ave.
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(C) 918-384-8795

PAULA WILLITS
1620 W. 41st St.
Tulsa, OK 74107
(H) 918-445-1155
(F) 918-447-0593
(C) 918-520-9725

LENA WIND
Rt. 3 Box 205
Okemah, OK 74859
(H) 918-623-9313
(F) 405-452-3435
(C) 918-520-9153

THOMAS YAHOLA
P.O. Box 303
Wetumka, OK 74883
(H) 405-452-3552
(F) 918-756-6812
(C) 918-906-1273

Revised: 03/05/09sharr

Committee Meetings

Business / Governmental
Steve Bruner - Chairman
Pete Beaver - Vice-Chair
Larry Cahwee
Selina Jayne-Dornan
David Nichols
Travis Scott
Paula Willits

Meetings: Thursday prior to Planning Session at 6 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Tribal Affairs
Bill S. Fife - Chairman
Sam Alexander - Vice-Chair
David Hill
Adam Jones
Eddie LaGrone
Carmin Tecumseh

Meetings: Third Tuesday at 5:30 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Human Development
Johnnie Greene - Chairman
Darrell Proctor - Vice Chair
Shirlene Ade
Ron Cleghorn
James Jennings
Keeper Johnson

Meetings: 1st Monday at 7 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Community Services / Cultural
Cherrah Quiett - Chairman
Roger Barnett- Vice Chair
Terrie Anderson
Robert Hufft
Kara Medina
Lena Wind

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m., in the Council chambers.

2009 MCN voter precinct information

Creek District
- Bristow Indian Community Center
710 S. Main St.
- Sapulpa Indian Community Center
1020 N. Brown St.

Mcintosh District
- Eufaula Indian Community Center
804 Forest Ave.
- Checotah Indian Community Center
500 Owens Ave.
- Hanna Indian Community Center
Last road through Hanna, turn east and go four miles
- Yardeka Indian Community Center
Eight miles SE of Henryetta (one mile south of Salem Baptist)

Muskogee District
- Muscogee Indian Community Center
111 South Virginia

Okfuskee
- Okemah Indian Community Center
1100 S. Woody Guthrie St.
- Weleetka Indian Community
602 S. Chickasaw

Okmulgee District
- Dewar Indian Community Center
212 Luella St.
- Okmulgee Indian Community Center
2701 N. Miami
- Twin Hills Community Center
8110 Highway 52

Tukvpvtce (Hughes) District
- Dustin Indian Community Center
Main Street
- Holdenville Indian Community Center
224 E. Poplar
- Wetumka Indian Community Center
608 N. Creek St.

Tulsa District
- Glenpool Indian Community Center
13839 S. Casper
- Tulsa Indian Community Center
8611 South Union

Wagoner District
- Koweta Indian Community
30925 E. 141st St. S

Community Calendar

• Spook Wesley Memorial Gospel Singing

BIXBY — On Saturday, Oct. 3, 2009 the 6th annual Spook Wesley Memorial Gospel Singing will take place at Bemo Baptist Church beginning at 7 p.m. Curtis Kinney will MC the event and everyone is welcome to attend.

Directions to the church are as follows: travel two miles north of Bixby on Memorial Drive, turn west on 131st. St., for half a mile, turn south at the Bemo Church sign and travel an additional fourth of a mile before arriving at the church.

• 2009 Fall Cultural Day set for Friday, Oct. 9

OKMULGEE — On Friday, Oct. 9, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care will sponsor the 2009 Fall Cultural Day from 10 a.m., to 1 p.m., at the main complex.

Traditional food will be available for sampling along with stompdance and craft demonstrations which will take place throughout the day. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation royalty will be in attendance and the story of the pre-removal of the Creeks will be told.

For more information, please contact the Office of Child Care at (918) 732-7680 or toll free at 1 (800) 205-3705.

• Dewar Indian Community hosts Creek language classes

DEWAR — Dewar Indian Community is currently hosting Creek language classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7-9 p.m., at the Dewar Indian Community Center located at 212 N. Luella in Dewar, Okla.

For more information please call (918) 652-3310 or the MCN Language Program at (918) 732-7724.

• Hanna watermelons still available

HANNA — Hanna Farm Project still has watermelons (black diamond and jubilee), squash, and okra available for sale.

For more informtion or to purchase produce, please contact EC Hessom at (918) 636-1376 or Valerie at (918) 732-7963.

"The Fearless Honkah Hunters"

• AITCO presents the Mahenwahdose production Oct. 16-17 at Tulsa PAC

Media Release
Mahenwahdose

TULSA — The American Indian Theatre Company is announcing the Oct. 16, 2009 premiere of the scary comedy "The Fearless Honkah Hunters," performed by Mahenwahdose Productions, an original, written by Native American's Wilburn K. Hill and Winona Henderson.

Hill, a Muscogee (Creek) citizen, who was recognized in March 2009 by the Tulsa City/County Library's American Indian Resource Center as one of Oklahoma's outstanding Native American playwrights, will be joined in this endeavor by Cherokee Winona Henderson, who has previously served as Editor of many of Hill's previous plays.

The acting ensemble of Mahenwahdose will once again fill the cast of the play, with Hill, seasoned actors Jehnean Washington, Hill's stage partner for the past nine years and a noted music composer, and Mike Buckendorf, who will be starting his fourth year with the group.

Joining the group for the first time will be Arianna Fink, actress from New York City, who has toured with "Phantom of the Opera," and appeared in off-Broadway performances such as Ado Annie in "Oklahoma" and Miss Adelaide in "Guys and Dolls." She also danced with the New Jersey Ballet and Opus Dance Company of Harlem.

The play, which takes place during the season of the big chestnut, Otowosko Thlocko (October), is about an unlikely group of Native American ghost hunters, known as The Fearless HONKAH Hunters (TFHH), led by a brother and sister team, John and Rachel Elkhair, played by Hill and Washington. Something mysterious is happening in Indian country, and it will take this crack team of ghost hunters to prove or debunk the haunting of an Inn and Resort in Southeastern Oklahoma that is said to have ghostly occurrences.

Photograph courtesy of Will Hill

Pictured above are Mike Buckendorf and Muscogee (Creek) playwright Will Hill who will star in the Mahenwahdose production of "The Fearless Honkah Hunters" at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center on Oct. 16-17.

Like many of Hill's plays, it is filled with the comedic antics his personality and professional training provides, as well as the language, history, music and folklore of the beautiful Native culture he so proudly represents in his writing and stage performances.

The play is being funded by the American Indian Theatre Company, The Oklahoma Arts Council, National Indian Monument Institution, Tulsa Indian Art Festival, Tulsa Performing Arts Trust, and Prescor, Inc.

The play will open at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center at 110 East 2nd Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma on Friday, Oct. 16 at 8 p.m., with a Matinee at 2 p.m., and an evening performance at 8 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 17, 2009. Join the American Indian Theatre Company, Will Hill and Mahenwahdose on October 16 and 17 for a terrifyingly funny time!

Tickets are now on sale at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center ticket office which may be reached by phone at (918) 596-7111 or toll-free at 1-800-364-7111.

"Muscogee (Creek) Nation: Planning for Seven Generations" research survey now available online

Media Release
Laura Harjo

OKMULGEE—"Muscogee (Creek) Nation: Planning for Seven Generations," the working title of a doctoral dissertation, creates a tribal planning blueprint for Muscogee (Creek) Nation (MCN). This research is independently funded and based out of the University of Southern California's Geography Department.

The blueprint is not itself a plan but is a guide to the execution of a tribal plan. Integral to the blueprint is "seventh-generational" planning, which integrates unique and specific tribal values into a long-term process, along with sovereignty, self-governance, and cultural preservation. This research is the ground work for a larger project –understanding how MCN can step onto a political world stage with other Indigenous peoples. A thorough understanding of the local is needed to capably navigate at an international scale.

In order to assess such long-range planning for Muscogee (Creek) Nation, I will take four steps: 1) analyze existing tribal plans to devise an appropriate planning process for MCN; 2) gather socioeconomic information about MCN's 11-county jurisdictional area; 3) assess political, community, and cultural issues pertinent to MCN; and 4) gather information about tribal members' values and needs. Analysis of the results of these four research steps will inform and shape a seven-generation planning blueprint for Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Step four of the research—gathering information about tribal members' values and needs is completed via a community survey. A hard copy of this survey was available at the Creek Festival and yielded over 100 responses. The goal of the survey is to determine what is important to tribal members, living both within the jurisdictional boundary and outside the boundary. While some folks may find that some things in the survey might not pertain to them, it still paints a picture of what is important, what does not apply, what questions are absent, and what questions can be removed.

There are four ways to access this survey:

1. http://www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov - Click Link: "Survey: MCN Seven Generation Planning" or Click URL: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=AmgS5NLFkWFzBpIo_2fwI2hg_3d_3d)
2. www.twitter.com/creekcommunity - Click URL: http://bit.ly/4dnInF
3. Type into web browser: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=AmgS5NLFkWFzBpIo_2fwI2hg_3d_3d
4. E-mail Laura Harjo at: creekcommunity@gmail.com and I will send you a link to the survey.

Your participation in this survey ensures your views are represented. Please be a part of this project and make your views known.

Laura Harjo is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Southern California. The information discovered in her research will be published in her dissertation and provided to the Muscogee (Creek) National government.

Spotlight: Adult Protective Services

by Joshua Slane
MNN Reporter

MNN/*Mallory Bible*

Above: The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Services Building on the main complex houses the Adult Protective Services Program.

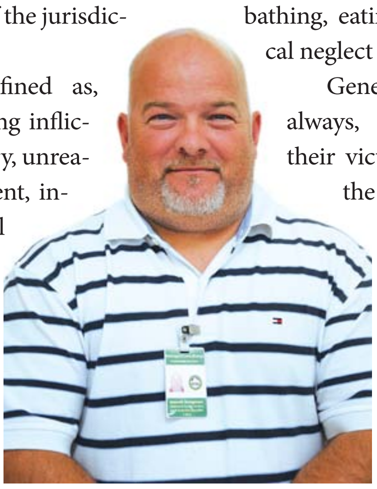
Below: Kenneth Bumgarner works to protect those who may not be able to protect themselves as the Adult Protective Services Program Specialist.

OKMULGEE — Everyone knows of the horrors of child abuse and neglect, as well as spousal abuse, but there other groups that are often in a position to be more susceptible to this type of treatment and may often be overlooked.

Incapacitated adults with a physical or mental condition which impairs his or her ability to sufficiently understand, make and communicate responsible decisions about themselves, as well as elders 55 years of age and older are often at a higher risk for such abuse.

To combat this abuse the Muscogee (Creek) Nation would like to inform citizens about the Adult Protective Services Department. This department safeguards anyone enrolled in the tribe though it does not have the authority of working outside of the jurisdictional boundaries.

Abuse is defined as, “causing or allowing infliction of bodily injury, unreasonable confinement, intimidation, or cruel punishment of an elder, which results in harm, pain, or mental anguish by any person, such as the elder’s spouse, child, or caretaker.”



Although abuse comes from a variety of sources, it can come from any person, including the person being abused. Secondly, abuse does not have to be intentional, nor does it have to be caused by bad feelings, but may arise from the best of intentions.

There are four main types of abuse including: physical, sexual, emotional and financial exploitation.

Physical abuse is perhaps the most commonly recognized form, which may occur without malicious intent such as when a caregiver grips an elder’s arm too tightly when holding them.

Emotional abuse is the intentional infliction of threats, humiliation, or intimidation. Emotional abuse may be harder to identify, as it may be done behind closed doors, leaving no physical trace of evidence. It may be used as a form of punishment by caretakers.

Sexual abuse is widely understood any may happen to men and women alike, regardless of age.

Financial exploitation is the unauthorized and/or improper use of funds, property, or other resources of an elder; or the unauthorized and/or improper use of the person of the elder by a caretaker or by any other person for personal gain or profit; or the failure to use the funds, property, or other resources of an elder’s benefit or according to the elder’s desires.

The Adult Protective Services Department works to fight against each form of abuse, while also opposing neglectful behavior, which is the failure of a caretaker to provide for the basic needs of an elder by not supplying resources, services, or supervision necessary to maintain the elder’s minimum physical and mental health. In addition, self-neglect, or the inability of an elder to supply his or her own basic needs, may include characteristics such as not bathing, eating properly, medical neglect and hoarding.

Generally, though not always, abusers live with their victims and are often the caregiver to their victim and many are financially dependent on the victim. There are multiple types of abusers, and many of these have the best of intentions but may not be aware of the needs of the person they are caring for. They may also be stressed or overworked and simply not able to give proper care. Others may be well-intentioned but impaired, narcissistic, abusive or sadistic individuals.

> *“Our goal is not to disrupt the home, it is to make the home better,”*
> *- Kenneth Bumgarner*

According to Adult Protection Specialist Kenneth Bumgarner, MCN APS is not part of the police department or out to “get” anyone, but simply want to put an end to abuse and neglect.

“Our goal is not to disrupt the home, it is to make the home better,” Bumgarner said.

They make things better through working with the resources both within the tribe and the state. For example, if an elder isn’t getting enough to eat, APS may work with the Elderly Nutrition program or with Meals on Wheels to provide food for the elder. APS may also work with programs such as KATS or the Tribal Transit Authority to coordinate transportation for important activities such as a doctor visit in order to get the elder (or incapacitated adult) the help that they need. “Wherever there’s a problem, we will find a solution” Bumgarner said.

But the APS department can’t do it alone, they need help from citizens, employees, friends and family in order to be as effective as possible. It is the responsibility of these advocates to educate themselves in order to put an end to abuse and neglect. This includes reporting abuse or neglect to APS. In fact, it is mandated by tribal code that such abuse be reported by tribal employees and elected officials. All reports are confidential and reporters who do so in good faith are immune to any civil or criminal suit based on that person’s report.

Reports should include the elder’s name, address or location, and a telephone number, if applicable. Additionally, contact information for the person(s) or agency suspected of committing the abuse or neglect, along with the name and number or location of witnesses, name and contact information for the caretaker and a description of the suspected abuse, makes for a thorough report. To make a report contact Kenneth Bumgarner at (918) 732-7869.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
School Clothing Assistance Program
Receipt DO’S and DON’TS

DO:

- **Turn in receipts within 90 days of the check issuance date.**
- **Turn in ALL ORIGINAL receipts.**
- **Turn in receipts that total the amount of your check.**
- **Legibly print parents name, child’s name and your phone number on the back of each receipt.**
- **Make sure all receipts are dated AFTER the check issuance date.**
- **Make sure all receipts have a date printed on them.**

DON’T:

- **Turn in receipts late.**
- **Cut the date off of the receipts.**
- **Write or mark on the front of the receipts.**
- **Turn in only partial receipts.**
- **Combine clothing purchases on the same receipts that you purchase other items on. Clothing items should be all that is on the receipts.**
- **Send cash, check, money orders or coins, etc. in with your receipts.**

For questions or additional information, contact:
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
School Clothing Program
918-756-2024 or 800-482-1979

Community Calendar

• Haskell Alumni Association Reunion

TULSA—On Oct. 9-11, the Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma invites all Haskell alumni and friends to attended the annual Haskell reunion.

The reunion will be held at the Radisson Inn located at 10918 E. 41st Street near Garnett and 41st Streets in Tulsa, Okla.

For more information contact Flo Spotted Bear at (918) 948-2505.

• C&FS selling chances to win $200 gift card to fund Angel Tree

OKMULGEE—Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services is currently selling chances to win a $200 gift card to Wal-mart to help fund their angel tree for children in custody.

If you would like to buy a chance to win, tickets are priced at two for $1.00. The drawing will be held October 15, 2009 and participants mustn’t be present to win.

For more information, please contact Cynthia at (918) 732-7878.

• Shrine Circus to be held at Claude Cox Omniplex

OKMULGEE — The all-new Shrine Circus will be held at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Claude Cox Omniplex at the Bob Arrington Rodeo Arena on Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2009.

Showtimes for the circus will be 4:30 and 7:30 p.m., and Muscogee (Creek) citizens will admitted free with their MCN citizenship card and a photo ID.

All children 12 and under will also be free with passes which are available throughout the MCN Complex.

For more information, please contact Dr. Graham at (918) 756-8536 or the Bedouin Shrine Temple at 888-782-8117.

Birthdays

Barbara (Marks) Lorraine

WICHITA, Kan., — Barbara (Marks) Lorraine celebrated her birthday on Aug. 11, 2009 with a theme of "Happy, Happy."

She is the daughter of Joseph and Rebecca Marks.

Grandparents are John and Margaret Marks.

Reba (Marks) Newman

PORTLAND, Ore., — Reba (Marks) Newman celebrated her birthday on Sept. 5, 2009 with a theme of "Go, Go Grandma."

She is the daughter of Joseph and Rebecca Marks.

Grandparents are John and Margaret Marks.

Helen (Marks) Sparks

FT. WORTH, Texas., — Helen (Marks) Sparks celebrated her birthday on July 11, 2009 with a theme of "Love Everyone".

She is the daughter of Joseph and Rebecca Marks.

Grandparents are John and Margaret Marks.

Vkvsvmkv (Estevhakoce) Rose Tecumseh

MORRIS — Vkvsvmkv (Esterhakoce) Rose Tecumseh celebrated her third birthday on Aug. 1, 2009 with a theme of "My Little Pony."

She is the daughter of Jabaica Lee Tecumseh Sr. and Narcissa Hoof.

She has two siblings, Alize Tecumseh and Jabaica Lee Tecumseh Jr.

Grandparents are Mandrell (Tuffy) Roberts and Isabel Tecumseh.

Great grandparents are Israel Tecumseh and Wisey Scott Tecumseh, she is the great niece of the late Nero Tecumseh.

She is of the Tiger Clan.

Jasmine Keva Washington

OKMULGEE — Jasmine Keva Washington celebrated her third birthday Aug. 2, 2009 with a theme of "Finding Nemo."

She is the daughter of Brenda Good Voice and David Washington.

Grandparents are Sally and the late Kenneth Good Voice and the late Lillian and Faldo Washington.

Great grandparents are the late Walter and Mary (Yahola) Jones and the late Elias and Keva (Iyotte) Good Voice and the late Martin and Louisa Checotah and the late Wesley and Polly Washington.

She attends the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Child Development Center. She is Muscogee (Creek), Cherokee and Rosebud Sioux.

She is of the Raccoon Clan.

Births

Aubrey LeAnn O'Dell

ADA — Aubrey LeAnn O'Dell was born on March 3, 2009 at Valley View Hospital.

She weighted 10 pounds and 6 ounces and was 20.5 inches in length.

She is the daughter of Jeff and Carissa O'Dell.

She has one sibling, Aris.

Grandparents are Larry and Laura O'Dell and Robert and Rowena Beach.

Great grandparents are the late Harmon Wiley and Anna Lee Wiley.

Taniya Nayanah Tecumseh

TAHLEQUAH — Taniya Nayanah Tecumseh was born July 7, 2009 at W.W. Hastings Indian Hospital.

She weighted 7 pounds and 6 ounces and was 19 inches in length.

She is the daughter of Janeena Birdcreek and Tullemarsey Tecumseh.

She has one sibling, Brenna Tecumseh.

Grandparents are Janet (McCarter) Birdcreek and Lex Birdcreek and Norma J. (Byrd) Tecumseh and July Tecumseh.

Great grandparents are the late Jessie Mae (Stover) McCarter and Louis McCarter and Edmond Birdcreek and the late Helen Butler and Dave Butler and the late Wisey (Scott) Tecumseh and the late Israel Tecumseh.

Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:

Roll Number:______________________
Phone Number: (___)______________
Name: ____
Address:____
Date of Birth: _______________________________________
Theme of the party:___________________________________
Parents: ____
Siblings: ____
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
School: ____
Clan: ____
Tribal Town:____

Birth:

Roll Number:______________________
Phone Number: (___)______________
Name: ____
Address:____
Date of Birth: _______________________________________
Name of Hospital: ____________________________________
Weight: ______ **pounds** ______ **ounces**______ **inches**
Parents: ____
Siblings: ____
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ____
Tribal Town:____

Announcements:

Roll Number:______________________
Phone Number: (___)______________
Name: ____
Address:____
Parents: ____
Siblings: ____
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ____
Tribal Town:____
Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Contact Starla Bush by phone at (918) 732 - 7636 or by e-mail at SBush@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Littlehead keeps college eyes on Sequoyah

• Senior lineman is the second SHS player in three years to play Division I ball

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

TAHLEQUAH — A few years ago, Tahlequah Sequoyah head football coach Brent Scott's office might have been a little more quiet.

He might have been able to concentrate solely on football and not worry about the unavoidable distractions that come with coaching the high school game. The majority of those distractions being the relentless recruiters visiting from big-time college programs. The thing is, there was a time when those recruiters never stepped a foot on the historic all-Indian campus.

That's all changed now, and coach Scott knows a big reason why. And when I say big, I'm talking 6 foot 3 inches and 315 pounds. That would be the newest rock-star at Sequoyah, monster lineman Chris Littlehead, who recently signed with Mike Gundy and the Oklahoma State Cowboys.

"Chris got 12 offers from Division I schools this year," said Scott, "so we're excited that so many big-time programs are interested in our student-athletes here at Sequoyah."

Littlehead is just the newest prize in what has been a nice run of football talent at the school.

Scott noted in an interview with the *Cherokee Phoenix* earlier this year, that the recruiting interest was sparked by Travis Boswell and his eventual signing with Northeastern State.

But it was "taken to a whole new level" with the recruitment of Nate Stanley. Stanley, a four star prospect and one of the most sought-after quarterbacks in the country in 2007, eventually signed with Ole Miss and will back up Heisman candidate Jevan Snead this season.

The irony is that this renaissance of football is taking place at a school that is no doubt known for it's basketball success. It speaks to the job that coach Scott and his staff have done, that more of their football players have went on to the Division I level.

Littlehead realizes the importance of more and more Indian athletes making it to the "big-time" in college athletics. He wants to be the first of many.

"All those camps I went to, the guys would be thinking I was Samoan or Mexican," he said in a recent interview. "But I'm proud to tell them that I'm Indian, because you don't see that many Indian athletes at this level. I'm hoping there will be more."

With his emergence, and the credibility that is building at Sequoyah as a first-rate school, it's not far-fetched to believe that Chris will be joined by more Indian football stars in the near future. Coach Scott recognizes that his program is in the midst of a special time and there is plenty of interest in what SHS football is all about.

"In all, we've had about 30 Division I coaches and recruiters in our locker room this spring," said Scott. "So we feel fortunate to be the size of school that we are, and getting this kind of attention."

For Littlehead, a great college football career and a degree await after he finishes what has already begun as a fantastic senior season for the Indians.

After that, it will be up to the next youngster to wow the scouts. But they won't have to call and invite those recruiters to come down to Sequoyah anymore, thanks to guys like Travis Boswell, Nate Stanley and Chris Littlehead, they'll already be there.

MONTHS & SEASONS

A T P Z W H W X E X O C S C H
L H A W N U O S S T G T B Z I
L I Z S R E V T O I E B O B Y
C P C W A H S W V H O K F U O
E A S A O H O U O L K F O H R
C J A C B S C L C A E T V E A
U W V Q K T E E R O L H R R K
C K U U A X Y V J F F P V I K
H D C N O K K A R O F V R S O
A E Z F H S P E K S E M R H E
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A W Y W D K E H V S E A H Y F
T T O D H K A D E E N O K U D
Y T A S A H C E R A K K O C O
O S V F V U C L J Z M N R E P

EHOLE
HIYO-RAKKO
HIYUCE
HOTVLE-HVSE
KE-HVSE
MESKE
OTOWOSKUCE
OTOWOSKV-RAKKO
RVFO
RVFO-CUSE
RVFO-RAKKO
TASAHCE
TASAHCE-RAKKO
TASAHCUCE

NOVEMBER
AUGUST
JULY
FEBRUARY
MAY
SUMMER
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
WINTER
JANUARY
DECEMBER
SPRING
APRIL
MARCH

MOVIE NIGHT!

ATTN: MUSCOGEE VETERANS

In Honor of Muscogee Veterans
the VASO will be hosting
"MOVIE NIGHT"
(Thursday, 29 Oct 2009)

ALL BRANCHES

- Showtime - 1800 Hrs. - Thursday, 29 October 2009
- Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
- Movie - **CREATURE FROM THE BLACK LAGOON (with Richard Carlson & Julia Adams)**
- Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
- Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
- Smoking Lamp is Lit
- Price of Admission - Muscogee Veterans must wear their MCN Veterans Vest (If you do not have a vest bring in your DD-214to be measured for a MCN Veterans vest).
- Muscogee Veterans are now allowed to bring one guest (Please limit to only one guest)
- **"Movie Night"** is for Muscogee Veterans only (Plus one guest)
- Any questions call Shawn Taryole at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7745

Community Calendar

• Mankiller to give keynote at OU NAS Symposium Oct. 2, 2009

NORMAN — The Native American Studies program in the College of Arts and Sciences at The University of Oklahoma will host its annual Symposium on American Indian Studies on October 2, 2009 at the National Weather Center.

Wilma Mankiller, former Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, will present the keynote address to invited faculty, students, administrators and guests from various Indian Studies programs, tribal governments, public schools and businesses across Oklahoma.

The theme for this year's symposium is "American Indian Studies in Context" which emphasizes a trend of Indian Studies reform and refinement. Topics to be addressed under this theme include Indian Studies curriculum offerings, student preparation and achievement, Indian Studies research, instruction, and community services.

Indian Studies faculty and students from OU and throughout the state's colleges and universities have been invited to present papers/panels. Other invited speakers include Tom Holm, professor emeritus, University of Arizona; Henrietta Mann, President, Cheyenne/Arapaho Tribal College; Todd Fuller, President, Pawnee Nation College; Hugh Foley, Rogers State College; Lee Hester, University of Science and Arts; Joe Bohanon, Bacone College; Richard Allen, Cherokee Nation; Linda Sue Warner, President, Haskell Indian Nations University and Dr. Joe Watkins, Director, Native American Studies, University of Oklahoma. The public is welcome.

For more information or to pre-register, please call (405) 325-2312. Registration is $75 for the public and $25 for students, which covers the luncheon and materials.

Community Calendar

• NORC Field Interviewers wanted

OKMULGEE — A national organization for research at the University of Chicago (NORC) is looking for self-motivated, outgoing individuals to work on a project about 2010 Census Media efforts.

Applicants will be visiting homes within the tribal communities and completing a 30 minute interview to evaluate the effectiveness of the different types of media used by the U.S. Census.

Compensation is set for $13.18 per hour plus mileage reimbursement of $.55 per mile. Must ne available to work 25-30 flexible hours per week, including daytime, evening and weekends.

Work will be available during the following three field periods: Sept. 1- Nov. 15, 2009; Feb. 1- March 15, 2010 and May 1,- June 15, 2010.

Two days paid training will be held in Okmulgee before the start of the field period. Applicants must have reliable transportation with required insurance coverage as well as a good driving history. Minimum car insurance coverage requires liability insurance of 100K/300/K/50K. Drivers may be hired for interviewers lacking the coverage.

There are two ways to apply: go online and complete an application at www.norc.org Careers-Field Interviewers-Current Opportunities- Field Operations-Creek/Okmulgee OK.

Applicants can also apply by calling toll free 877-368-6571 to request an application.

NORC is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer that values and actively seeks diversity in the workforce.

NJOMA offers $2,500 scholarship

• Chief Ellis honored for his efforts in securing national funding for program

Media Release
National Johnson O'Malley Association

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz., — The National Johnson O'Malley Association, Inc., was formed as a nonprofit, educational organization for the following purposes:

To create an effective forum for discussion of educational and related matters of mutual concern among the members of the educational community.

To mutually develop standards of educational excellence for Indian students served by the educational programs within the United States.

To maintain appropriate lines of communication and collaborative efforts with other public, private, tribal and federal educators and educational programs.

To maintain formal liaisons with Tribal, State and Federal governmental agencies and other educational organizations, including but note limited to National Congress of American Indians, National Indian Education Association and other alliance organizations.

To advocate for Johnson O'Malley Programs and the rights of Indian children from 3 years old through twelfth grade.

Chief Ellis has been one of the driving forces in the fight to maintain the JOM programs on a national level. He has assisted the National JOM Association in speaking to Congress and urging tribal leaders throughout the Nation to take up the fight for their children's future.

The National Johnson-O'Malley Association is honored to sponsor the Chief Ellis Scholarship in the amount of $2,500 to a deserving student. This scholarship is given to honor the work of Chief A.D. Ellis not only for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, but also for his work in securing JOM funds on a national level for JOM programs throughout the Nation.

The scholarship recipient will be announced at the Annual NJOMA Conference in Phoenix, Ariz.

Crieteria for eligibility for the scholarship includes the following:

- Must be a member of a federally recognized tribe (provide copy of CDIB or tribal citizenship card)
- Chief Ellis Scholarship application completed and submitted by deadline.
- A one-page, typed personal statement on your goals and career choice with an emphasis on how the JOM program effected your school achievements.
- Two letters of recommendation

If you are a 2010 graduating high senior, you must complete the following:

1. Submit a copy of your high school transcript(s)
2. If selected, you must submit your admission letter before scholarship is released
3. One of your letters of recommendation must be from your current high school staff
4. You must be planning to attend a two or four year college or university

If you are a current college student, you must complete the following:

1. Submit a copy of your college transcript(s)
2. You must have maintained a grade point average of 2.75 or higher for the past semester
3. Must currently be attending a two or four year college or university

Applications must be received no later than Friday, Oct. 9, 2009.

Red Ribbon Week set for Oct. 17-25

• Teens encouraged to submit drug-free stories for publication in the MNN!

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Youth Council
Children's Mental Health Initiative

SAPULPA — Enrique "Kiki" Camarena grew up in a dirt-floored house with hopes and dreams of making a difference.

Camarena worked his way through college, served in the Marines and became a police officer. When he decided to join the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, his mother tried to talk him out it. "I can't not do this," he told her. "I'm only one person, but I want to make a difference."

The DEA sent Camarena to work undercover in Mexico investigating a major drug cartel believed to include officers in the Mexican army, police and government. On Feb. 7, 1985, the 37-year-old Camarena left his office to meet his wife for lunch. Five men appeared at the agent's side and shoved him in a car. One month later, Camarena's body was found in a shallow grave. He had been tortured to death.

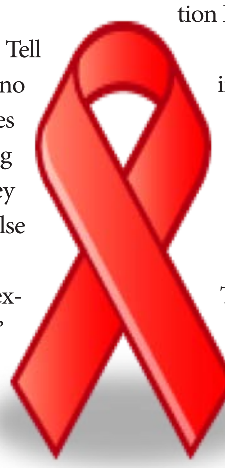
Within weeks of his death in March of 1985, Camarena's Congressman, Duncan Hunter, and high school friend Henry Lozano, launched Camarena Clubs in Imperial Valley, California, Camarena's home. Hundreds of club members pledged to lead drug-free lives to honor the sacrifices made by Camarena and others on behalf of all Americans. These coalitions began to wear red badges of satin, red ribbons, as a symbol Camarena's memory. The Red Ribbon Week campaign emerged from the efforts of these clubs and coalitions.

Today, Red Ribbon Week is nationally recognized and celebrated, helping to preserve Special Agent Camarena's memory and further the cause for which he gave his life.

By wearing a red ribbon during the last week in October, Americans pay homage not only to Special Agent Camarena, but to all men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in support of our nation's struggle against drug trafficking and abuse.

Children have to face many tough decisions in their life. Peer pressure from friends and others can have a big impact on the decisions that they make regarding drugs and alcohol use.

By teaching our children these refusal skills, they will be more confident when faced with tough decisions.



- Say, "No, thanks." It really can be that easy!
- Be a broken record. Tell your child to keep saying no as many times as it takes someone to stop pressuring them, or to stall until they can think of something else to say.
- Give a reason. For example, "That's bad for you" or "I don't want to do that; it will make me sick." Make sure your child can say this with confidence.
- Walk away or ignore the offer. This doesn't work in all situations. Sometimes your child will be alone or in some other situation where they can't just walk away.
- Change the subject or suggest doing something else. By saying, "Let's do _____ instead," your child has the potential to not only refuse the offer of drugs or alcohol, but to prevent a friend from using also.
- Assert Yourself. If your child can stick up for themselves, they are learning important life skills.

Distributed by the ODMHSAS Prevention Resource Center

For additional help or info please contact:

MCN Children's Mental Health Initiative at (918) 224-9307

HEY TEENS, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! Have you done something great in your school or community to promote being DRUG FREE?

Submit your story in 150 words or less by October 25, 2009 via e-mail to: Jessica.seachris@creekhealth.org or by mail to :

Jessica Seachris
Youth Coordinator
MCN Children's Mental
Health Initiative
9 N. Water, Ste. 104
Sapulpa, OK 74066

Winners will have their story printed in the next edition of the *Muscogee Nation News*!

OTOWOSKU RAKKO — BIG CHESTNUT MONTH

THE MNN

• EXTRA EDITION •

PRSRT FIRST CLASS
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Okla City, OK

Volume 2, Issue 9 www.themuscogeecreeknation.com October 2009

Rebecca Landsberry

Letter from the Editor:

Hensci readers! I speak for everyone on my staff when I tell you how thrilled we were to be able to attend the annual California Muscogee (Creek) Association meeting in Los Angeles this past weekend. We truly felt welcomed by the citizens there who have put in much hard work and effort to keep their connection to the tribe strong, even though they are living thousands of miles away from the tribal complex here in Okmulgee.

The staff and I also got the opportunity to cover a day of events at the National Congress of American Indians meeting in Palm Springs, Cali., during our trip and it was a humbling experience to be in the presence of so many tribal leaders, including a few of our own National Council Representatives and Executive Branch members.

It was a little hard to leave the beautiful scenery with the mountains cradling the roads and the palm trees swaying in the slight breeze at a perfect 72 degrees. I was ultimately more than thrilled to hit the runway in Oklahoma, even if I had to drag my sweaters out of the closet this weekend. I'm thankful for my home here and the wonderful friends and family in the state, but it's great to experience new people and places as well. I would encourage everyone to make the trek at least once in their lifetime if they can!

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@musco-

IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

- Muscogee Royalty

Update on the reign of Miss Muscogee Nation 2009-2010

PAGE - 4

- NAAV Executive Board

Creek citizens named Executive Director and Vice-President

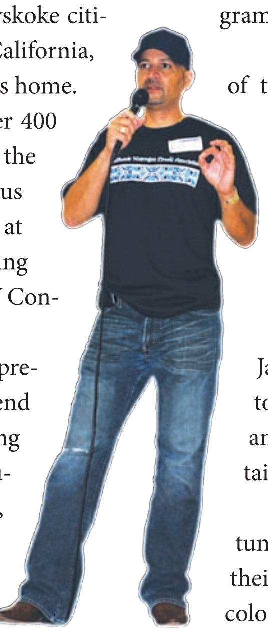
PAGE - 6

CALIFORNIA MUSCOGEE (CREEK) ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GATHERING

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

LOS ANGELES — Sunny, warm and inviting - all words that could be used to describe the city of Los Angeles in general. The same could be said for the Mvskoke citizens inhabiting the state of California, where the tight-knit group calls home.



On Saturday, Oct. 10, over 400 attendees passed through the doors of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints at the annual gathering, according to CMCA Historian and *MNN* Contributor George Windes.

A number of tribal representatives were invited to attend the meeting this year including Chief of Staff Mike Flud, Executive Director Claude Sumner, Deputy Director of Community Services Danette McIntosh along with representatives from Muscogee (Creek) Nation Language, Higher Education, Social Services, Citizenship and Human Development programs.

Along with presentations from each of the departments explaining services available to those living outside the Creek boundaries, Language instructors held a Mvskoke language class for children from 2-4 p.m., after everyone enjoyed a potluck lunch.

Acclaimed Creek author Billy Jane McIntosh traveled from Arizona to participate in the event where she and her son sold copies of her book detailing the life of Chilly McIntosh.

Participants also had the opportunity to enroll on the spot and update their tribal citizenship cards, by adding a color photo.

Executive Director Claude Sumner also reminded everyone of their opportunity to vote in the upcoming General and Special Elections set for Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009 where all registered voters will vote on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation constitutional amendments passed at the convention last year.

President of the California Creek Association, Eli Grayson, also addressed the participants, urging them to become active not only in their own tribal government, but also in the U.S. government by contacting perspective state representatives and senators as well.

"The tribes have a lot of power today and members of Congress need to hear from them," Grayson stated.

For more information on the California Creek Association, contact Eli Grayson at (760) 534-1632.

President Obama to meet with tribal leaders from across the nation

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

WASHINGTON, D.C., —As part of President Obama's sustained outreach to the Native communities, the administration has invited the leaders from the federally-recognized tribes across the nation to attend a conference at the White House to be held on Nov. 5, 2009.

This conference will provide leaders from all 564 federally recognized tribes the opportunity to interact directly with the President and representatives from the highest levels of his Administration.

Each federally-recognized tribe will be invited to send one representative to the conference. While the attempt to connect with tribal leaders is commendable, it has some Native Americans wondering how much good can really come from such a large-scale meeting.

To have the opportunity to sit down with the President and discuss some of the most pressing issues for Native Americans is undoubtedly long overdue, but whether or not this conference can be any more useful than a public relations effort is yet to be determined.

All precincts open for Nov. 7, 2009 General and Special Election

Media Release
MCN Election Board

OKMULGEE — General and Special Elections are set for Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009. During the General Election, the National Council candidates and the Constitutional Amendments will included on the same ballot.

Precinct Registration will be open for the election until Oct. 28, 2009 at 5 p.m. Voters planning to vote with their precinct need to be registered by that deadline in order to vote. Absentee ballots will be mailed on October 19, 2009.

For more information, contact the MCN Election Board Office at (918) 732-7684.

Muscogee Nation News
STAFF
Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
Senior Writer - Angel Ellis
Cultural Reporter - Ruth Bible
Reporter - Starla Bush
Reporter - Joshua Slane
Feature Writer - Gerald Wofford
Sports Writer - Jason Salsman
Graphic Design - Carla Brown
Graphic Design - Crystal Lumpkin
Graphic Design - Tyler Roberds
Circulation - Wilma Murphy

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News*** unless other copyrights are shown.

Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

The District Court filings from August 2009 are as follows (continued from October MNN):

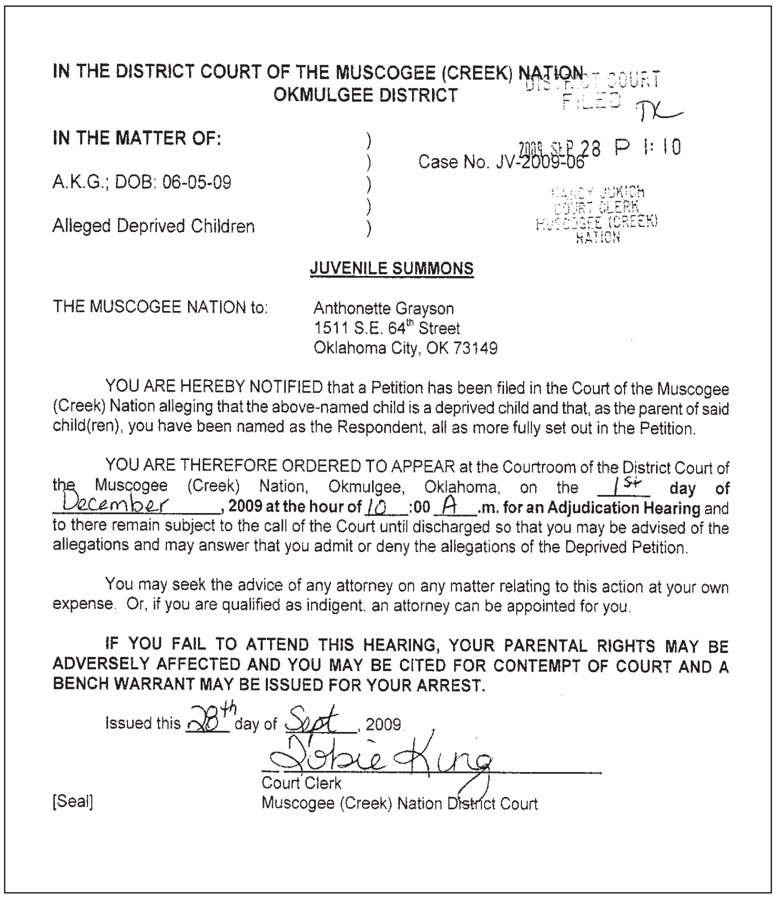
Horizon Credit Inc., v. Carrie Elkins	Small Claims
Central State Finance v. Sam Harper	Small Claims
Cash Security Loans v. Melissa Pitterman	Small Claims
Security Finance v. Edania Fisher	Small Claims
Joseph Corley v. Kerri Roberts	Petition
Roxanne Gibbs v. Vorise Lightell	Petition
Cameron Fixico v. Toni Factor	Petition
Angela Lowe v. Brandon Pigeon	Petition
Jabaica Tecumseh Sr., v. Narcissa Huff	Petition
Cassandra Macaruso v. James Young	Petition
Rebecca Fields v. Jeffrey Powell	Petition

Divorce:

Raymond Thornhill v. Jennifer Wallace	Divorce
Whitney Moore v. Dante Moore	Divorce
Shannon Mitchell v. Dennis Mitchell Jr.	Divorce
Kelli Burch v. Jimmy Burch	Divorce
Michael Bevenue v. Kameron Bevenue	Divorce
Michael Tiger v. Josie Tiger	Divorce
Annette Johnson v. Brandon Johnson	Divorce
Wendell Harjo v. Angellica Harjo	Divorce
Denise Franks v. Ray Franks	Divorce

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex rel., Carol Mitchell v. Mark Hanson	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Belinda Long v. Andrew Long	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Tiffany Lees v. Kevin Lees	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Rebekah Hurt v. Kary Bain	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Barbara McGuire v. Patricia McCall	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Felicia Lawrence v. Michael Williams	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Danita Fields v. Steven Bluebird	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Angel Mills v. Brandon Ogburn	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Shelly Ballard v. Tommy Ballard	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Chia Kong v. Shing Xiong	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Yua Lo v. Sor Xiong	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Amber Burgess v. Charles Jordan	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Dena Webb v. Benjamin Webb	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Jenna Leitka v. Michael Tiger	Child Support



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED TK
2009 SEP 28 P 1:10
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) Case No. JV-2009-06
A.K.G.; DOB: 06-05-09)
)
Alleged Deprived Children)

JUVENILE SUMMONS

THE MUSCOGEE NATION to:
Anthonette Grayson
1511 S.E. 64th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73149

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation alleging that the above-named child is a deprived child and that, as the parent of said child(ren), you have been named as the Respondent, all as more fully set out in the Petition.

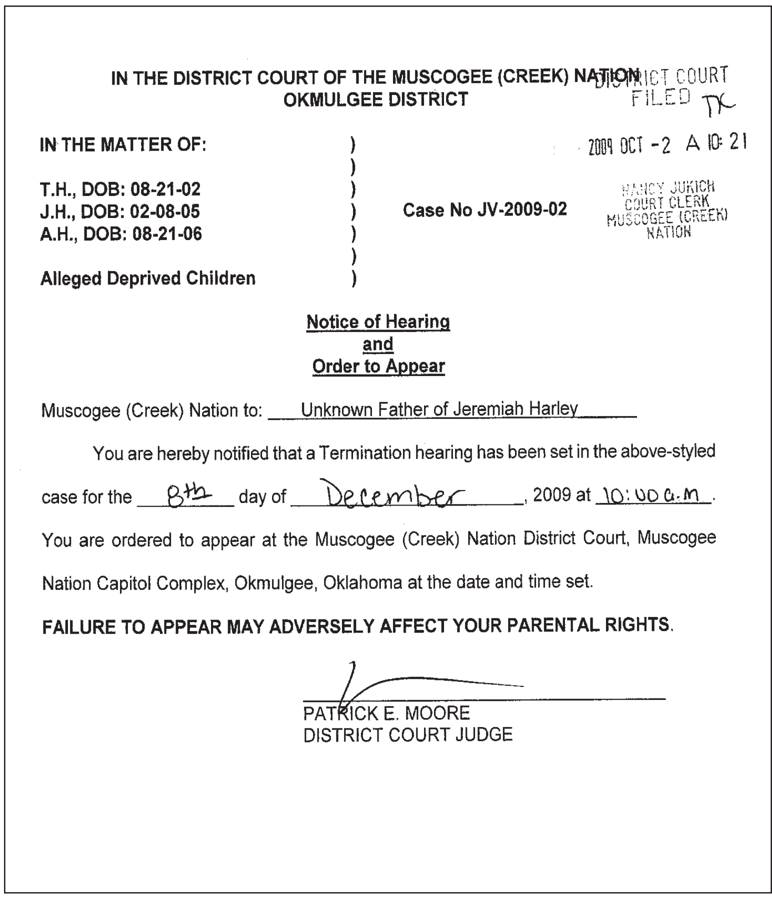
YOU ARE THEREFORE ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 1st **day of** December**, 2009 at the hour of** 10**:00** A**.m. for an Adjudication Hearing** and to there remain subject to the call of the Court until discharged so that you may be advised of the allegations and may answer that you admit or deny the allegations of the Deprived Petition.

You may seek the advice of any attorney on any matter relating to this action at your own expense. Or, if you are qualified as indigent, an attorney can be appointed for you.

IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THIS HEARING, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND YOU MAY BE CITED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT AND A BENCH WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST.

Issued this 28th day of Sept, 2009

Tobie King
Court Clerk
[Seal] Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED TK
2009 OCT -2 A 10:21
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
T.H., DOB: 08-21-02)
J.H., DOB: 02-08-05) **Case No JV-2009-02**
A.H., DOB: 08-21-06)
)
Alleged Deprived Children)

Notice of Hearing
and
Order to Appear

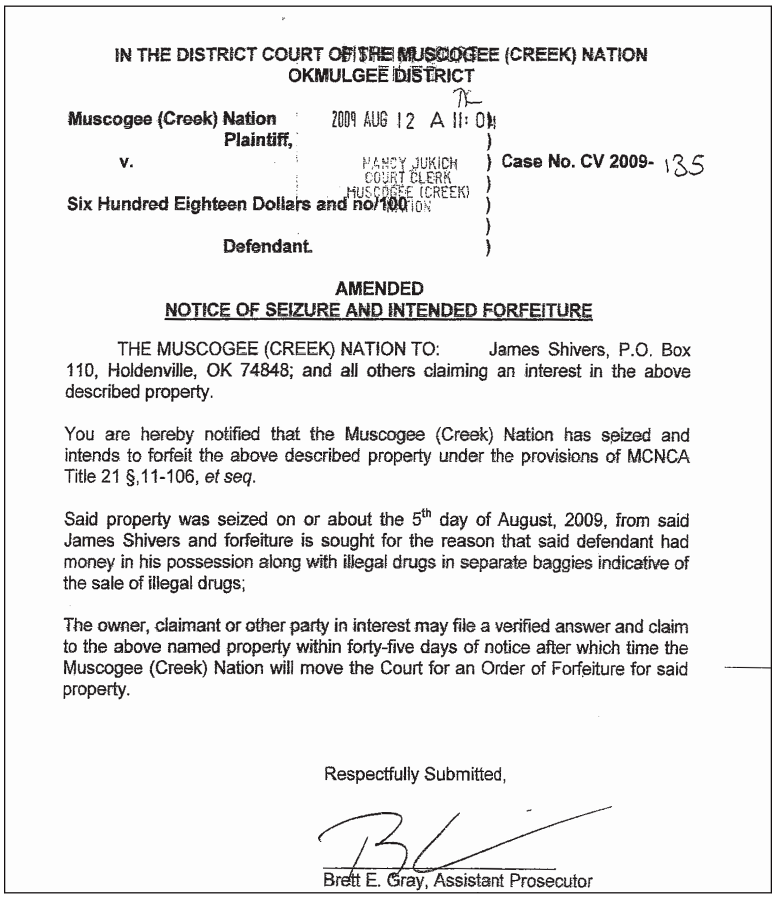
Muscogee (Creek) Nation to: Unknown Father of Jeremiah Harley

You are hereby notified that a Termination hearing has been set in the above-styled case for the 8th day of December, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

You are ordered to appear at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Muscogee Nation Capitol Complex, Okmulgee, Oklahoma at the date and time set.

FAILURE TO APPEAR MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS.

PATRICK E. MOORE
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

TK
2009 AUG 12 A 11:01
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Plaintiff,)
v.) **Case No. CV 2009-** 135
)
Six Hundred Eighteen Dollars and no/100)
)
Defendant.)

AMENDED
NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND INTENDED FORFEITURE

THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: James Shivers, P.O. Box 110, Holdenville, OK 74848; and all others claiming an interest in the above described property.

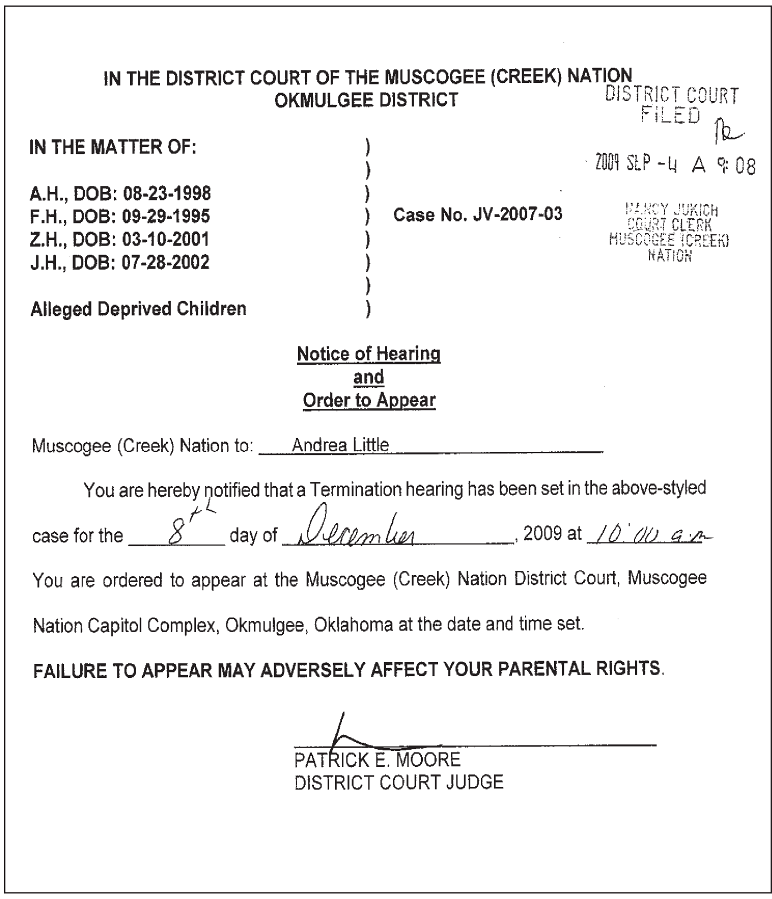
You are hereby notified that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has seized and intends to forfeit the above described property under the provisions of MCNCA Title 21 §,11-106, *et seq*.

Said property was seized on or about the 5th day of August, 2009, from said James Shivers and forfeiture is sought for the reason that said defendant had money in his possession along with illegal drugs in separate baggies indicative of the sale of illegal drugs;

The owner, claimant or other party in interest may file a verified answer and claim to the above named property within forty-five days of notice after which time the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will move the Court for an Order of Forfeiture for said property.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brett E. Gray, Assistant Prosecutor



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED TK
2009 SEP -4 A 9:08
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
A.H., DOB: 08-23-1998)
F.H., DOB: 09-29-1995) **Case No. JV-2007-03**
Z.H., DOB: 03-10-2001)
J.H., DOB: 07-28-2002)
)
Alleged Deprived Children)

Notice of Hearing
and
Order to Appear

Muscogee (Creek) Nation to: Andrea Little

You are hereby notified that a Termination hearing has been set in the above-styled case for the 8th day of December, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

You are ordered to appear at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Muscogee Nation Capitol Complex, Okmulgee, Oklahoma at the date and time set.

FAILURE TO APPEAR MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS.

PATRICK E. MOORE
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

Council Oak Tree Ceremony set for Saturday, Oct. 24

Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

TULSA — At 2 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 24, Mvskoke people will come together once again to celebrate the historic meeting held at Council Oak each year helping to remind citizens of the struggles and successes the Nation has survived in the past.

The Council Oak Tree, located across the street from the new Stickball Park, remains a lasting symbol of the city's Native American history and like the Creek ceremonial grounds, the tree has withstood a few storms over the last century, but remains strong.

In 1832, tribes living in the southeast begun their forced migration from Alabama under orders from the U.S. government.

In 1836, a group of Creeks, along with members from the Choctaw, Cherokee, Chickasaw and Seminole tribes, found the end of their Trail of Tears. As they sought shelter under an expansive oak tree near the Arkansas River, the Creeks decided to make this piece of Indian Territory their own, lighting a ceremonial fire and naming the land "Tallahassee" or "Tulsi."

Both the park and the tree are often referred to as Tulsa's first city hall. The Tulsa-Lochapoka no longer exist today, however, the site continues to be the annual meeting place of the sixteen remaining ceremonial grounds including Alabama, Arbeka, Duck Creek, Fish Pond, Green Leaf, Hickory Ground, Hillabee, Kellyville (Pole Cat), New Tulsa, Nuyaka, Okfuskee, Peach Ground, Sand Creek (Iron Post), Tallahassee Cromwell, Tallahassee Wykokaye and Weogufkee.

MOVIE NIGHT!

ATTN: UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS VETERANS

In Honor of Muscogee Veterans
the VASO will be hosting
"MOVIE NIGHT"
(Thursday, 12 Nov 2009)
To Celebrate The Birth Month Of The United States Marine Corps
(10 November 1775)

- Showtime - 1800 Hrs. - Thursday, 15 October 2009
- Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
- Movie - **WINDTALKERS (with Adam Beach and Nicholas Cage)**
- Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
- Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
- Smoking Lamp is Lit
- Price of Admission - Marine Corps Veterans must wear their MCN Veterans Vest (If you do not have a vest bring in your DD-214 to be measured for a MCN Veterans vest).
- Muscogee Marine Corps Veterans are now allowed to bring one guest (Please limit to only one guest)
- **"Movie Night"** is for Muscogee Veterans only (Plus one guest)
- Any questions call Shawn Taryole at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7745

Tulsa Indian Community Princess applications due Oct. 23

Media Release
Tulsa Indian Community

TULSA — The Tulsa Indian Community will be electing a Princess to represent them as the 2009-2010 Princess, candidates will be expected to be a role model and voice for creek youth.

Qualifications listed below include:

- Female between 15-21 years of age. If in school must have a current GPA of 3.0 or higher
- No tobacco or alcohol use of any kind
- Must be a Creek citizen and live in Tulsa Creek boundaries
- Must not be married or have children
- Must not be involved with any unlawful acts
- Must own or have access to tribal regalia
- Elected Princess will receive: Beaded crown, Sash, Plaque w/ picture, Flowers, Gift Cards, Cash Prize

Applications may be picked up Tulsa Creek Indian Community, it must be returned by Friday, Oct. 23, 2009. Please contact TCIC for more

Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative hosting Youth Art Contest

Media Release
Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative

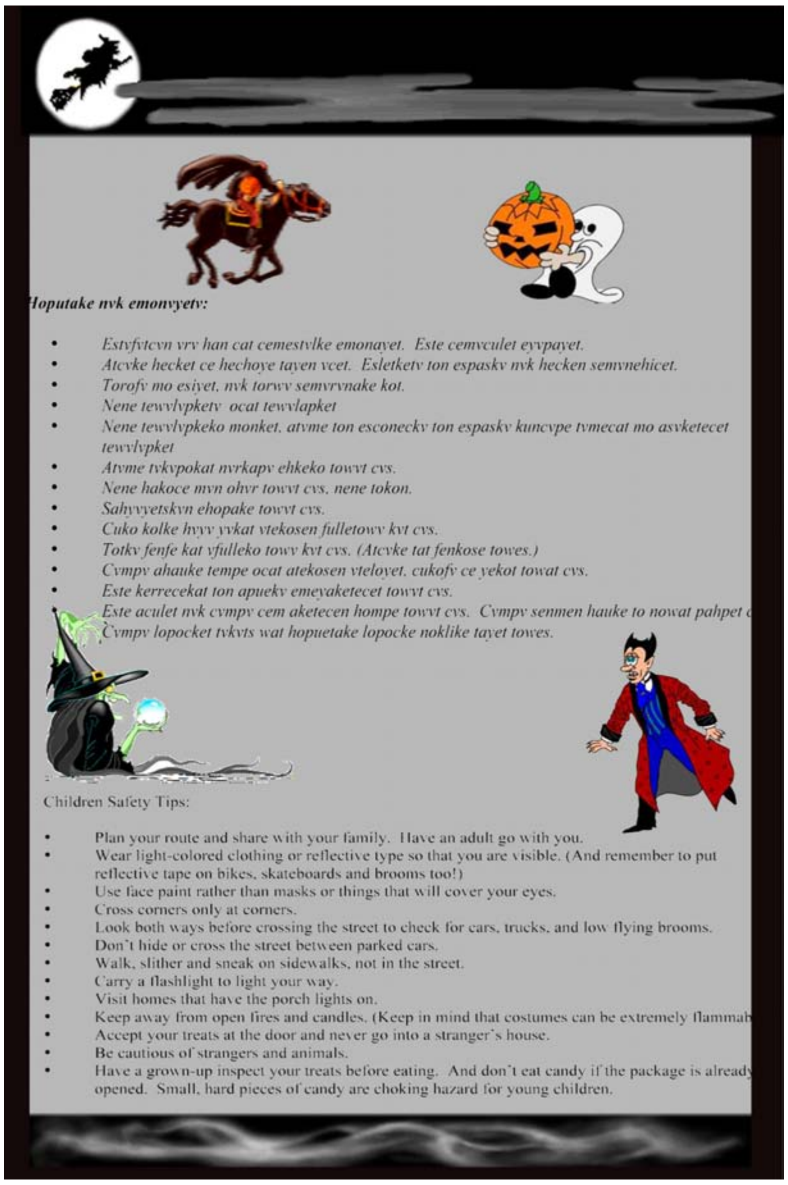
OKMULGEE — The Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative is holding a Youth Art Contest. Youth ages 21 and under are encouraged to submit artwork showing the spiritual and physical health benefits of traditional Mvskoke foods and games.

The art contest is divided into four categories: Child (ages 6 and under), Youth (ages 7-11), Teen (ages 12-18) and Adult (ages 19-21). The arts can be either a drawing, photograph, painting or other artwork size 8 1/2" x 11" or 11" x 17."

Submissions must be received by 9 a.m., Nov. 3, 2009 in either PDF, JPEG or hard copy. Artists or their parents must sign a release form in order for MFSI to be able to display the art.

Mail, e-mail or drop-off entries at: MFSI 208 West 6th Street, Okmulgee Okla, 74447, info@mvskokefood.org. Winners will be announced during the Harvest Feast on Nov. 6, 2009.

For more information contact MFSI at (918) 756-5915 or at: Mvskokefood@gmail.com.



Hoputake nvk emonvyetv:

- *Estvfvtcvn vrv han cat cemestvlke emonayet. Este cemvculet eyvpayet.*
- *Atcvke hecket ce hechoye tayen vcet. Esletketv ton espaskv nvk hecken semvnehicet.*
- *Torofv mo esiyet, nvk torwv semvrvnake kot.*
- *Nene tewvlvpketv ocat tewvlapket*
- *Nene tewvlvpkeko monket, atvme ton esconeckv ton espaskv kuncvpe tvmecat mo asvketecet tewvlvpket*
- *Atvme tvkvpokat nvrkapv ehkeko towvt cvs.*
- *Nene hakoce mvn ohvr towvt cvs, nene tokon.*
- *Sahyvyetskvn ehopake towvt cvs.*
- *Cuko kolke hvyv yvkat vtekosen fulletowv kvt cvs.*
- *Totkv fenfe kat vfulleko towv kvt cvs. (Atcvke tat fenkose towes.)*
- *Cvmpv ahauke tempe ocat atekosen vteloyet. cukofv ce yekot towat cvs.*
- *Este kerrecekat ton apuekv emeyaketecet towvt cvs.*
- *Este aculet nvk cvmpv cem aketecen hompe towvt cvs. Cvmpv senmen hauke to nowat pahpet c*
- *Cvmpv lopocket tvkvts wat hopuetake lopocke noklike tayet towes.*

Children Safety Tips:

- Plan your route and share with your family. Have an adult go with you.
- Wear light-colored clothing or reflective type so that you are visible. (And remember to put reflective tape on bikes, skateboards and brooms too!)
- Use face paint rather than masks or things that will cover your eyes.
- Cross corners only at corners.
- Look both ways before crossing the street to check for cars, trucks, and low flying brooms.
- Don't hide or cross the street between parked cars.
- Walk, slither and sneak on sidewalks, not in the street.
- Carry a flashlight to light your way.
- Visit homes that have the porch lights on.
- Keep away from open fires and candles. (Keep in mind that costumes can be extremely flammab
- Accept your treats at the door and never go into a stranger's house.
- Be cautious of strangers and animals.
- Have a grown-up inspect your treats before eating. And don't eat candy if the package is already opened. Small, hard pieces of candy are choking hazard for young children.

Committee Meetings

Business / Governmental
Steve Bruner - Chairman
Pete Beaver - Vice-Chair
Larry Cahwee
Selina Jayne-Dornan
David Nichols
Travis Scott
Paula Willits

Meetings: Thursday prior to Planning Session at 6 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Tribal Affairs
Bill S. Fife - Chairman
Sam Alexander - Vice-Chair
David Hill
Adam Jones
Eddie LaGrone
Carmin Tecumseh

Meetings: Third Tuesday at 5:30 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Human Development
Johnnie Greene - Chairman
Darrell Proctor - Vice Chair
Shirlene Ade
Ron Cleghorn
James Jennings
Keeper Johnson

Meetings: 1st Monday at 7 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Community Services / Cultural
Cherrah Quiett - Chairman
Roger Barnett- Vice Chair
Terrie Anderson
Robert Hufft
Kara Medina
Lena Wind

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Community Calendar

• 2009 OIC Pink Party

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee Indian Health Center is preparing for the 2009 "Pink Party, breast cancer awareness event. The seventh annual party will be held Wednesday, Oct. 21, from 1p.m. to 4p.m., at Covelle hall, OSU Institute of Technology (OSU-Okmulgee).

The keynote speaker will be Ms. Alisa Gilbert. Ms. Gilbert is a member of the Tewa Tribe and is also a breast cancer survivor.

The Pink Party is open to everyone and in addition to quest speakers there will be information booths, refreshments, and door prizes. Registration for the Pink Party will be on-site only and begins at 12p.m.

The goal of the Pink Party is to heighten awareness, early detection and treatment of breast cancer and support to breast cancer survivors. Breast cancer survivors will have a special registration area. For more information about the Pink Party, call the Okmulgee Indian Health Care Center at (918) 758-1926.

• Dewar Indian Community hosts Creek language classes

DEWAR — Dewar Indian Community is currently hosting Creek language classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7-9 p.m., at the Dewar Indian Community Center located at 212 N. Luella in Dewar, Okla.

For more information please call (918) 652-3310 or the MCN Language Program at (918) 732-7724.

• Montesoma Baptist Church to host revival

HAYDONVILLE — The Montesoma Baptist Church in Haydonville, Okla. is having a revial on Nov. 13 through Nov. 15. Weekday revival begins at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday revival begins at 11a.m.

The evangelist will be Gary Hawkins. Those who need a ride can contack (918)-623-9126.

• Eufaula Indian Community to host Fall Festival Oct. 29

EUFAULA — The Eufaula Indian Community is hosting a Halloween Skate Party Thursday, Oct. 29 beginning at 6:30 p.m., at The Rink located at 800 Birkes Road in Eufaula, Okla.

For more information please contact Lisa Floyd (918) 689-5066.

Muscogee royalty showcase culture and class

• Miss Muscogee Rochelle Werito gives an update on her 2009-2010 reign

Rochell Werito
Miss Muscogee Nation

STILLWATER — Hensci! I want to start by saying I have had a busy couple of months and loved every minute of it. I have had the honor of traveling our beautiful state and representing the Muscogee Nation at numerous events.

The Muscogee Creek Nation royalty were invited to the Choctaw Nation, Chickasaw Nation, Seminole Nation, and Okemah Indian Community Fall Festival pageants. We were able to attend these events and learn about other cultures while watching the ladies compete to hold their respective titles.

I would like to wish each title holder congratulations and have a wonderful reign. I also would like to encourage the other contestants to never give up. I had the pleasure of meeting each of the new royalty and had the chance to take a group picture with the Miss Seminole, Miss Choctaw, Miss Cherokee, and Miss Chickasaw.

I love seeing these luminous young women when we cross paths at different events. The MCN royalty were invited to be in the Sucker Day and Weleetka Pride Day Parades and attended a National Council meeting July, 25, 2009.

We were asked to be in Miss Cherrah Ridge-Quiett's special as she was honored as Head Lady at the IICOT powwow on August 22, 2009. It was amazing to be asked to be with her during that time. She is an awesome role model for me and other young women. I was able to be in attendance at the 6th annual Churches Meeting, andperform the Lord's Prayer in sign language. I was also blessed to be able to travel to Macon, Georgia and be where our ancestors once lived. It was an incredible experience to be a part of because as a young Creek woman I need to soak up as much knowledge of who I am by taking the time to learn more and more about my people.

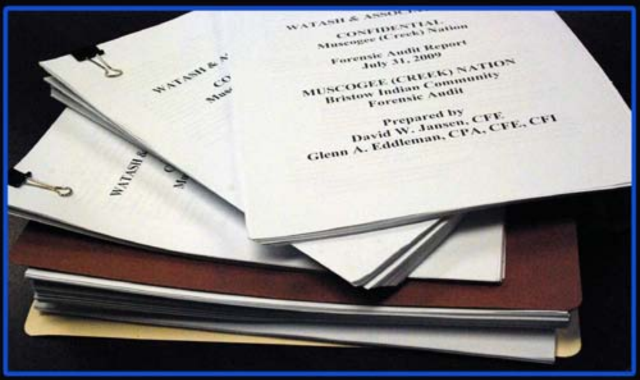
The beauty of the land captivated me and I hope everyone gets a chance to see what I did. We, MCN royalty, all love being able to represent the MuscogeeNation as Good Will Ambassadors, and I learn new things about my fellow royalty each time we are together. As we continue to build our bond we find that we are family and I am thankful everyday for having them in my life. I am thankful for Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, the National Council, pageant committee and the Muscogee Nation for giving me all the opportunities to travel as Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Last, I would like to say MVTO to Mr. Marcus Proctor for being the best chaperone, and for helping me with everything.

I am a student at Oklahoma State University, and I know the pressures of exams and deadlines. I would like to wish ALL students good luck in all you do throughout this 2009-2010 academic school year.

I would also like to encourage high school seniors to start looking for scholarships for higher education opportunities, and begin to look for schools that have programs/degrees that you are interested in. If you need help or have questions make an appointment to see your counselor at your school. You can do anything you put your mind to!

Mvto. Cehecvres.
Rochell Werito
Miss Muscogee Nation
2009-2010

Get the facts!



WATASH & ASSOC
CONFIDENTIAL
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Forensic Audit Report
July 31, 2009
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
Bristow Indian Community
Forensic Audit
Prepared by
David W. Jansen, CFE
Glenn A. Eddleman, CPA, CFE, CFI

FORENSIC AUDIT REPORTS
of the
Bristow, Checotah, Duck Creek, Eufaula, Holdenville & Okemah Indian Communities

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CITIZENSHIP BOARD
MVSKOKE ETVLWV TVSE' KIA EN COKV HAYE APOKON
CITIZENSHIP CARD
This is to certify that
Informed Mvskoke Etv'lwv is enrolled with the Muscogee Nation
Born: 12-13-1935
Roll No: 12345
Degree of Creek Blood 4/4

Bring your Citizenship card to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court Office and request your FREE copy TODAY!!

MOVIE NIGHT!

ATTN: MUSCOGEE VETERANS

In Honor of Muscogee Veterans
the VASO will be hosting
"MOVIE NIGHT"
(Thursday, 29 Oct 2009)

ALL BRANCHES

- Showtime - 1800 Hrs. - Thursday, 29 October 2009
- Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
- Movie - **CREATURE FROM THE BLACK LAGOON (with Richard Carlson & Julia Adams)**
- Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
- Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
- Smoking Lamp is Lit
- Price of Admission - Muscogee Veterans must wear their MCN Veterans Vest (If you do not have a vest bring in your DD-214to be measured for a MCN Veterans vest).
- Muscogee Veterans are now allowed to bring one guest (Please limit to only one guest)
- **"Movie Night"** is for Muscogee Veterans only (Plus one guest)
- Any questions call Shawn Taryole at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7745

Okemah MCN Dental Clinic update

• Dental Clinic utilizes technical and human resources

Sandra Peters
MCN Health Systems

Photograph courtesy of Sandra Peters

Pictured above are staff members of the Okemah Indian Dental Clinic which held its grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony earlier this year in August 2009.

OKEMAH — Dr. Vicki Harless, DDS, supervises a team of professionals who were ready to be at work for their citizens. Assisting Dr. Harless are Jodi Danker, Office Coordinator, Vickie Quinn RDH, and Dental Assistants, Jackie Buckley, Alison Scott, Vickie Martin and Kimberly Edwards. Staff personnel were anxious for the move to the new facility.

Health Division computer technicians set up the computer programs and phone systems so that staff would be operable for appointments and scheduling August 17th. With state-of-the-art equipment and six dental station chairs the facility has room for growth.

The new clinic also has two operatory areas, an X-ray room, an on-site lab and a patient consultation room. Paid for with third-party billing funds from the Health Division, the facility is a beautiful addition to the City of Okemah on the corner of Columbia and 16th Street.

The interior design is Tuscan-themed and includes Okemah's Historical Society and private collection photographs and prints. Publicly-never-seen-before portraits depict Okemah's early Indian Territorial days and Oklahoma statehood scenes were painstakingly chosen to heighten the sense of Muscogee history and awareness in the waiting areas.

The clinic offers a number of routine dental services including oral exams and cancer screenings, treatment planning, cleaning, X-rays, sealants and fluoride treatments for cavity prevention, diabetic screening, head start exams and oral hygiene instructions.

Other services include treatment for gum disease, fillings, limited root canal treatments, emergency services and tooth extractions. The new facility was given a special prayer and dedication by David Dunson, Assistant to Second Chief Alfred Berryhill at its Grand Opening. David spoke of the history of the Muscogee People and their sacrifice concerning land. His prayer honored our Creator God and God's hand of mercy and protection over what we plan and build as a Nation.

Okemah Dental Clinic funding was approved by the MCN National Council. Lena Wind, Okfuskee District, gave an overview at the opening ceremonies of the legislative process that brought the Okemah Indian Dental Clinic into existence.

To help complete the work of the grand opening other National Council Reps., Shirlene Ade, Tukvpvtce District, Bill Fife and Travis Scott, Okfuskee District, Terrie Anderson and James Jennings, Okmulgee District, Roger Barnett from Creek District, Speaker Thomas Yahola and other MCN Administration cut the ribbon to officially open the clinic.

To schedule an appointment, please contact the clinic at (918) 623-3016 or (918) 623-3018 during working hours.

Community Calendar

• Hanna Indian Community to host Fall Festival Oct. 23

HANNA — Hanna Indian Community is having a Fall Festival Friday, Oct. 23, 2009 beginning at 6:30 p.m., at the community center located two miles east of the post office.

There will be a hayride, games, costume contest, and lots of fun activities for the kids.

For more information, please call (918) 657-2641.

• Native Cinema Showcase set for Nov. 5-8

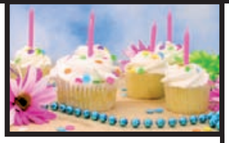
OKLAHOMA CITY — The Native Cinema Showcase will be Nov. 5-8, and is co-presented by the American Indian Cultural Center & Museum and the Oklahoma City Museum of Art.

Screenings will take place at the Oklahoma City Museum of Art, located at 415 Couch Drive (Downtown), in Oklahoma City. Members will be charged $5.00, adults: $8.00, seniors (65+): $6.00, college students (with ID): $6.00.

For more information, please call (405) 236-3100 or visit: http://www.okcmoa.com

Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:



Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)____________
Name: ______________________________________
Address:______________________________________
Date of Birth: __________________________________
Theme of the party:______________________________
Parents: ______________________________________
Siblings: ______________________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
School: ______________________________________
Clan: ____
Tribal Town:___________________________________

Birth:

Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)____________
Name: ______________________________________
Address:______________________________________
Date of Birth: __________________________________
Name of Hospital: ______________________________
Weight: ______ **pounds** ______ **ounces**______**inches**
Parents: ______________________________________
Siblings: ______________________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ____
Tribal Town:___________________________________

Announcements:

Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)____________
Name: ______________________________________
Address:______________________________________
Parents: ______________________________________
Siblings: ______________________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ____
Tribal Town:___________________________________
Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Contact Rebecca Landsberry by phone at (918) 732 - 7743 or by E-mail at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Community Calendar

• All-Indian Rodeo Play Day set for Oct. 24

OKMULGEE — On Sat. Oct. 24, 2009 the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Bob Arrington Arena in Okmulgee will be hosting the All Indian Rodeo Play Day.

The event is sponsored by the Arrington-McSpadden Rodeo Association. The Play Day will begin at 1 p.m. Participants must have paid entry fees by noon and must be 12 years old or younger.

Club fees are $5.00, with open fees at $25.00 and gate fees at $2.00. There will also be a concession stand on-site. Club competitions will be done first with open competitions done second. Participants will be competing in poles, barrels and flags.

For more information, contact Martha Calico at (918) 696-7953 or fax at (918) 696-4750.

• 13th annual Euchee Heritage Festival

GLENPOOL — The Glenpool Creek Indian Community Center will be the location of the 13th Annual Euchee Heritage Festival on November 6 & 7, 2009. The Glenpool Creek Indian Community Center is located on Highway 75 and 141st Street.

The Festival will kick off on Friday, Nov. 6 with a Traditional Meal ($6 for adults, $3 for 8 years and under) followed by Bingo at 8 pm.

Saturdays festivities will begin at 1 pm with a welcome and horseshoe tournament, 2pm to 5 pm Cultural Arts and at 7:30 a Stomp Dance.

For Vendor information contact Wanda at 918-224-3065.

• Tulsa Indian Community to host Halloween Carnival for Oct. 22

TULSA — Tulsa Indian Community is hosting a Halloween Carnival Thursday, October 22, 2009 beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Admission fee is a canned food item. There will be prizes for the following contests: Costume, Cake-Decorating, Pumpkin-Carving, and coloring.

The center is located at 8611 S. Union Ave., in Tulsa, Okla. For more information, please call (918) 298-2646.

NAAV forms new executive board

• Creek citizens named Executive Director and Vice-President

by Renee Brewer
Native Alliance Against Violence

OKMULGEE — In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October, President Obama also released a proclamation reminding citizens of the importance of this issue.

"Domestic violence touches the lives of Americans of all ages, leaving a devastating impact on women, men, and children of every background and circumstance. A family's home becomes a place of fear, hopelessness, and desperation when a woman is battered by her partner, a child witnesses the abuse of a loved one, or a senior is victimized by family members. Since the 1994 passage of the landmark Violence Against Women Act, championed by the Senator Joe Biden, our Nation has strengthened its response to this crime and increased services for victims. Still, far too many women and families in this country and around the world are affected by domestic violence. During National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we recommit ourselves to ending violence within our homes, our communities, and our country."

Photograph courtesy of Shawn Partridge

Pictured above are (front row left to right): Shawn Patridge, Dawn Stover, Renee Brewer, Jason O'Neal, (back row): Shlley Miler, Kelly Stoner, Heather Napier, Karen Gaddis, Kimberly Stephens and Dee Killion.

The Native Alliance Against Violence recently completed the first board training last week with First Nations from Longmont, Col. They uploaded their novation to OVW and are now a fully-functioning coalition. Locally, the organization's Executive Director and Creek citizen Renee Brewer said she is excited to take on the challenge and work with tribal Nations to put a stop to violence.

"I look forward to working with each and every one of you in the future and hope to build long standing respectful relationships. These wonderful and committed individuals who have agreed to dedicate their time and expertise to ensure that Oklahoma Indian Country is represented in a fashion that will be helpful, respectful and culturally appropriate, while building and developing partnering members," Brewer said.

The following are members of the new NAAV Board: Shawn Partridge, Vice-President (Muscogee (Creek) Nation) Case Manager Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Dawn Stover, Treasurer (Cherokee) ORCPI Oklahoma Regional Community Policing Institute, Renee Brewer (Muscogee (Creek)), NAAV Executive Director, Jason O'Neal, President (Citizen Potawatomi) Chickasaw Lighthorse Police Chief, Shelley Miller, Secretary (Kiowa) Director Apache Tribe of Oklahoma DV Program, Kelly Stoner, Legal Advisory Board Member (Cherokee) Director Native American Legal Resource Center, Heather Napier, Regional Board Member (Seminole) Director Seminole Nation DV Program, Karen Gaddis, Regional Board Member (Cherokee) Manager Chickasaw Nation DV Program, Kimberly Stephens, Regional Board Member (Seminole), Director Absentee Shawnee Tribe DV Program, Dee Killion, Regional Board Member (Quapaw) Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma.

Board members not in the photo above include: Linda Goodwin, Regional Board Member (Choctaw) Director Choctaw Nation DV Program Center; Casey Ross-Petherick, Legal Advisory Board Member (Cherokee) Deputy Director Native American Legal Resource Center.

On October 28, 2009 the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Family Violence Prevention Program is having a Domestic Violence Survivors Panel at the Mound building from 11 a.m.-noon.

The public is welcome to come and listen to the speakers..

Ferrellgas
Blue Rhino

Special offer for Creek Nation Tribal Members

Discounted Price on Propane •
FREE Tank Switch Out •
FREE System Safety Check •
Used 500 gallon tank for $450 •
Discounted Lease on Tanks •
Normal tank lease charge is $80 per year on a 500 gallon tank
Tribal members will be offered a lease fee of $50 per year

Am I eligible for this program?

The tribal member must live in our service area •
Make sure to inform the Customer Service Specialist that you are a Creek Nation tribal member •

James Parker - Account Manager
Cell Phone: 918-277-2470

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
School Clothing Assistance Program
Receipt DO'S and DON'TS

DO:

- Turn in receipts within 90 days of the check issuance date.
- Turn in ALL ORIGINAL receipts.
- Turn in receipts that total the amount of your check.
- Legibly print parents name, child's name and your phone number on the back of each receipt.
- Make sure all receipts are dated AFTER the check issuance date.
- Make sure all receipts have a date printed on them.

DON'T:

- Turn in receipts late.
- Cut the date off of the receipts.
- Write or mark on the front of the receipts.
- Turn in only partial receipts.
- Combine clothing purchases on the same receipts that you purchase other items on. Clothing items should be all that is on the receipts.
- Send cash, check, money orders or coins, etc. in with your receipts.

For questions or additional information, contact:
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
School Clothing Program
918-756-2024 or 800-482-1979

Be Aware of the Scare of Secondhand Smoke!

SECONDHAND SMOKE (SHS) MEANS:

☠WHEN A PERSON SMOKES CIGARETTES NEAR YOU, YOU BREATHE IN THE SECONDHAND SMOKE

☠WHEN YOU INHALE SHS, YOU ARE SMOKING, TOO!

☠DANGER! NO AMOUNT OF SECONDHAND SMOKE IS SAFE

☠IT CAN CAUSE SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME (SIDS)

☠IT CAN CAUSE HEART DISEASE

☠IT CONTAINS POISONS THAT CAUSE CANCERS!

☠IT CAN HARM YOU IF YOU'RE A CHILD OR ADULT

☠MORE LIKELY TO HAVE LUNG PROBLEMS, EAR INFECTIONS & ASTHMA

Protect Yourself & Your Family Against Secondhand Smoke!

Did you know

When you inhale secondhand smoke you breath in the same 4,000 chemicals (50 cancer causing chemicals) as smokers do. Even breathing in a little can hurt! Some effects from secondhand smoke are temporary, but others can last a lifetime. Young or old, sick or healthy, secondhand smoke is harmful.

Take a stand to protect yourself, your family &

Protect our Native Youth Against Commercial Tobacco Abuse!

Figure out the Cryptogram below to find out another secondhand smoke fact.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
				19			15					25						2							

_	_	H	_	_	_	_	_		S	E	_	_	_	_	H	_	_	_		S	M	_	_	E
17	16	15	18	10	17	16	9		2	19	26	20	16	6	15	18	16	6		2	25	20	3	19

_	S		M	_	_	E		_	_	_	_	E	_	_	_	S		_	H	_	_		S	M	_	_	_	_	_
17	2		25	20	13	19		6	18	16	9	19	13	20	24	2		23	15	18	16		2	25	20	3	17	16	9

Community Calendar

• Annual Memorial Gospel Singing

OKMULGEE — Little Cussetah Indian United Methodist Church will hold its annual Memorial Gospel Singing on Saturday Nov. 21, at 7 p.m.

Nathan (Wahoo) Buck will MC the event. All singers and listeners are welcome to attend. Concession is available.

Revival is being held Nov. 18-20 beginning at 7 p.m.

• Bemo Indian Baptist church Creek Singing

TULSA — In celebration of the life, birthday, and retirement of Rena Belle Buck. Oct. 31, 2009, Creek singing and Presentation held from 2p.m. to 5 p.m., with dinner following the singing presentation. Guests are invited to bring your favorite covered dish.

The church is located North of Bixby, South of Tulsa at 131st St., and Memorial. Follow signs.

• Creek Chapel Methodist Church Revival

OKEMAH — Revival to be held on Oct. 21-24 at 7 p.m. The event will feature Rev. Andrew Johnson on Wednesday, Rev. Mitchell Taylor on Thursday, Rev. Fred Lowe on Friday and Rev. George Harjochee on Saturday.

Refreshments will be available every night and the church is located three miles south on Hwy 27, turn left four and a half miles east.

• Relay for Life meeting "Chebon's Warriors"

OKMULGEE — All those interested in participating in raising funds, donating or volunteering on "Chebon's Warriors" team are welcome to attend the first meeting scheduled for Nov. 28, 2009 at 1p.m. In memory of Wilbur Chebon Gouge, the team will participating in the Relay for Life which raises money to fight cancer.

Those interested in helping the cause can contact Nancy Deere at (918)-756-4272 for more information. The meeting will be held at 1310 N. Alabama, in Okmulgee, Okla.

Community Calendar

• Tell us why you're a drug-free teen!

SAPULPA — HEY TEENS, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Have you done something great in your school or community to promote being DRUG FREE? Submit your story in 150 words or less by October 25, 2009 via e-mail to: Jessica.seachris@creekhealth.org or by mail to :

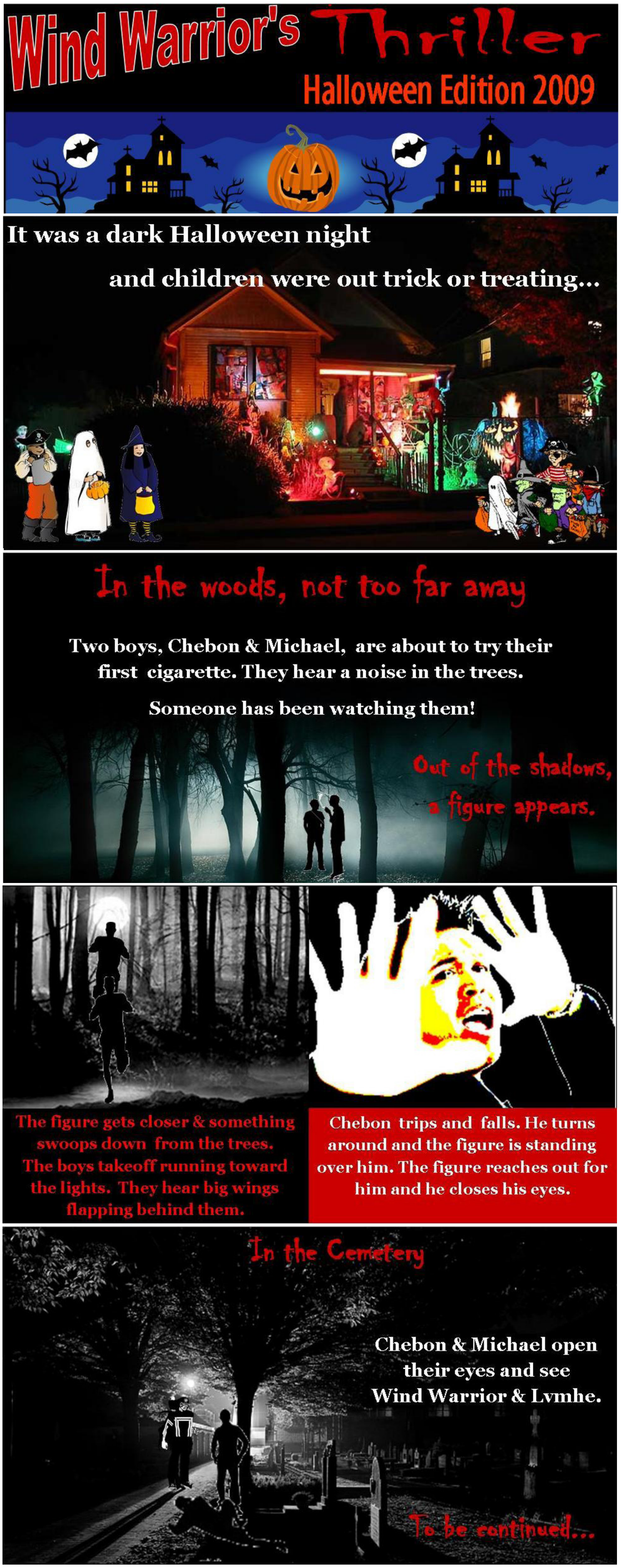
Jessica Seachris
Youth Coordinator
MCN Children's Mental
Health Initiative
9 N. Water, Ste. 104
Sapulpa, OK 74066

Winners will have their story printed in the next edition of the *Muscogee Nation News*!

Here are a couple of ways YOU can say no when confronted with drugs and or alcohol in celebration of National Red Ribbon Week Oct. 17-25, 2009.

- Say, "No, thanks." It really can be that easy!
- Be a broken record. Tell your child to keep saying no as many times as it takes someone to stop pressuring them, or to stall until they can think of something else to say.
- Give a reason. For example, "That's bad for you" or "I don't want to do that; it will make me sick." Make sure your child can say this with confidence.
- Walk away or ignore the offer. This doesn't work in all situations. Sometimes your child will be alone or in some other situation where they can't just walk away.
- Change the subject or suggest doing something else. By saying, "Let's do ______ instead," your child has the potential to not only refuse the offer of drugs or alcohol, but to prevent a friend from using also.
- Assert Yourself. If your child can stick up for themselves, they are learning important life skills. Distributed by the ODMHSAS Prevention Resource Center

For additional help or information, please contact the MCN Children's Mental Health Initiative at (918) 224-9307.

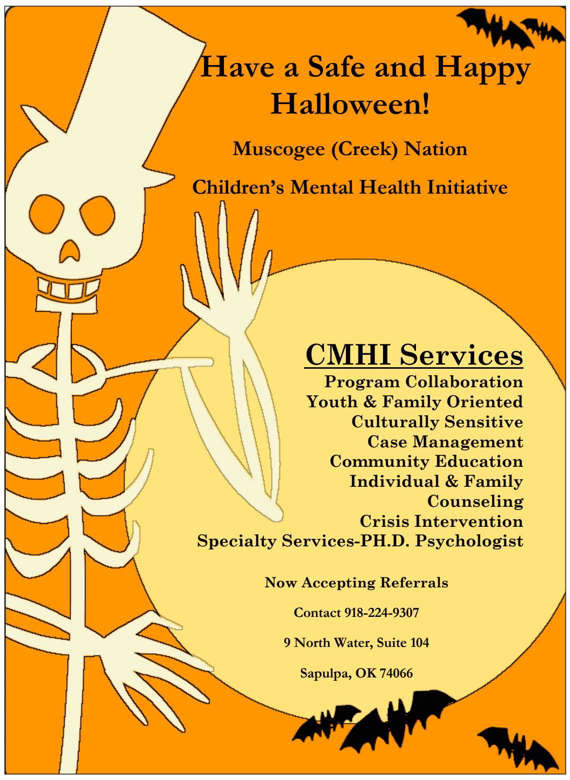

Wind Warrior's Thriller
Halloween Edition 2009
It was a dark Halloween night
and children were out trick or treating...
In the woods, not too far away
Two boys, Chebon & Michael, are about to try their first cigarette. They hear a noise in the trees.
Someone has been watching them!
Out of the shadows, a figure appears.
The figure gets closer & something swoops down from the trees. The boys takeoff running toward the lights. They hear big wings flapping behind them.
Chebon trips and falls. He turns around and the figure is standing over him. The figure reaches out for him and he closes his eyes.
In the Cemetery
Chebon & Michael open their eyes and see Wind Warrior & Lvmhe.
To be continued...

Halloween safety tips from Office of Childcare

Media Release
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care

OKMULGEE—Although Halloween can be an exciting time for children, it can also be dangerous. Spend time before the holiday to discuss some important safety and injury prevention topics with children. Share these safety suggestions from the American Red Cross with the children in your area.

- Remember to walk, slither or waddle on sidewalks, not in the streets.
- Always look both ways before crossing the street to check for cars, trucks, or a low flying broomstick.
- Cross the street only at the corners, traffic is usually slower at intersections and try to use a crosswalk when available.
- Never hide or cross the street between parked cars.
- Wear light-colored or reflective clothing so you are more visible at night. Put reflective tape on bikes, skateboards, or props like brooms if the child is going to be carrying one.
- Plan your route and share it with other members of the family. If possible have an adult with children.
- Carry a flashlight to light the way. Do not depend on street lighting or natural light, especially on a cloudy evening.
- Keep away from open fires and candles. While costumes require flame retardant materials, some decorations such as candle lit jack-o'-lanterns may still pose a hazard, particularly for curious young children who like to touch.
- If you must trick or treat in neighborhoods you are not familiar with, only visit those homes which are will lit.
- Accept treats at the door. Remind children that they should never go into a strangers house. This time of year is a good time to sit down and refresh the memory of children about stranger danger.
- When planning those spooky or heroic costumes, try to use face paints rather than masks. Poorly fitted masks can be a hazard. Children need to be able to look both ways at streets, have adequate peripheral vision and unimpeded mobility as they trick or treat.
- Remind children to be cautious of animals as they make their way through the neighborhood.
- Have a grown-up inspect your treats before eating making sure that treats are unopened. Small, hard pieces of candy are a choking hazard for young children.


Have a Safe and Happy Halloween!

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Children's Mental Health Initiative

CMHI Services
Program Collaboration
Youth & Family Oriented
Culturally Sensitive
Case Management
Community Education
Individual & Family Counseling
Crisis Intervention
Specialty Services-PH.D. Psychologist

Now Accepting Referrals
Contact 918-224-9307
9 North Water, Suite 104
Sapulpa, OK 74066

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

October is breast cancer awareness month

HEALTH - A6

Octoberfest at Muskogee

PROGRAMS/ NOTICES - A7

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

OCTOBER 2009
Volume 39, Issue 10
SEMI-MONTHLY

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www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

2009 Primary Election results

• All precincts open Nov. 7, 2009 for amendment vote

MNN/*Gerald Wofford*

Pictured above is citizen Emily King of Sapulpa checking the final results of September's Primary Election inside the Creek Nation Capitol Complex and relays them by cell phone. King's lone presence exemplified the scarce attendance inside the complex that evening because many Creek citizens chose to obtain the results from the official Muscogee (Creek) Nation Web site at www.themuscogeecreeknation.com.

THREE DISTRICTS IN RUN-OFF

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Election Board held the primary elections for the 2009-2010 Muscogee (Creek) National Council candidates on Saturday, Sept. 19, 2009.

It was a tight race with certain seats of the MCN National Council and there will be three run-off elections in Tulsa, Okmulgee and Okfuskee Districts for the General Election set for Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009. In Tulsa District, Incumbent Kara Medina and Carol McHenry Williams will be included on the ballot for Seat F. In Okmulgee, Incumbent Carmin Tecumseh-Williams and Pearl Thomas are candidates for Seat D and in Okfuskee District, Incumbent Lena Wind and Mary L. (Severs) Lee will be the candidates on the ballot for Seat B.

All Muscogee (Creek) Nation voting precincts will be open on this date in order to allow voters the opportunity to vote on the constitutional amendments passed at the convention last year in November 2008.

For more information, please contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board at (918) 732-7684.

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

SEE RESULTS - A2

Trail of Tears Remembrance Ride

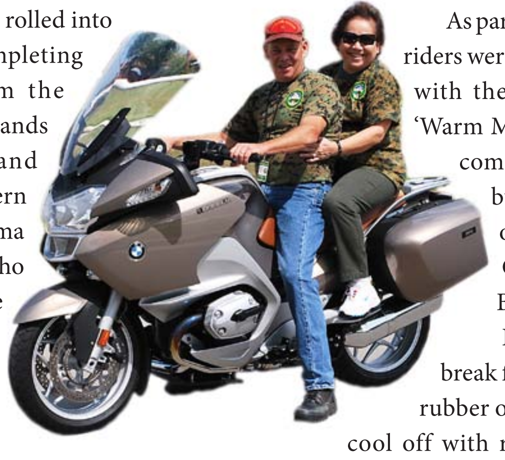
• Mvskoke Nation welcome riders to capitol city

MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Pictured above are Muscogee (Creek) veterans and friends who met participants of the annual Trail of Tears Remembrance Bike Ride who rolled through on Sept. 21, 2009 all the way from Chattanooga, Tenn.

Below: VASO Director Ken Davis and Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Rep. Paula Willits followed riders during the event.

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor



OKMULGEE — On Monday, Sept. 21, 2009, the streets of Okmulgee over were lined with roaring motors as bikers rolled into downtown, completing their trip from the Mvskoke homelands in Tennessee and other southeastern states to Oklahoma to honor those who struggled on the Trail of Tears and their descendants living in Oklahoma.

The 16th annual Trail of Tears Remembrance Bike Ride originates in Chattanooga, Tenn., and features riders from all over the United States and several foreign countries who ride for three days to get here.

As part of the event, riders were also greeted with the 5th annual 'Warm Mvskoke Welcome' sponsored by the Office of the Second Chief Alfred Berryhill.

Riders took a break from burning rubber on the road to cool off with refreshments including famous Hanna Indian Community's watermelon provided by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Services.

Ken Davis, Director of Muscogee Veteran Affairs Service Office organized a group of veterans and friends to meet and greet the riders in Checotah and rode with them to the heart of the Nation on the lawn of the Creek Council House Museum.

"Second Chief Berryhill really got the ball rolling as far as the veterans' involvement with the ride and now we come out and meet them side by side as they come in," Davis stated.

For more information on next year's 2010 event, visit the official Trail of Tears Remembrance Ride Web site at: www.trailoftears-remembrance.org/

Annual California Creek gathering set for Oct. 10

by Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

LOS ANGELES — All are welcome to attend the annual gathering of the California Muscogee (Creek) Association, set for Saturday, Oct. 10, 2009, from noon until 5 p.m., at the conference hall of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints located in Huntington Park West Stake Center at 3115 S. Vermont Ave., in Los Angeles.

Participants may join tribal officials, representatives and employees to learn more about services and programs available through the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and fellowship with a potluck lunch.

The *Muscogee Nation News* Team will also be on-site to distribute copies of the MNN and take senior pictures for 10 California Creek high school seniors (first come, first served).

For more information on the event, contact Eli Grayson at (706) 534-1632 or by e-mail at eligrayson@hotmail.com

Creek Nation Radio Program 'Creek Beat' moving to net

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

OKMULGEE—Beginning Wednesday, October 7, 2009 the Creek Nation Radio Program, 'Creek Beat' will move its broadcast. The 30-minute weekly news program will no longer be heard on Okmulgee's local KOKL AM 1240 radio station, however, production will continue.

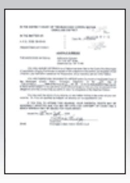
The program will now be heard on the Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative Web site at www.msvkokefood.org and scroll down to the 'streaming radio' link to listen to the Creek Nation Radio Program each Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m. (CST), or anytime.

The Creek Nation Radio Program may also be heard on the official Muscogee (Creek) Nation Web site at www.themuscogeecreeknation.com by clicking the 'Creek Beat' logo. Past shows will also be available on both web sites.

For more information on publicizing tribal community events on the program, please contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department at (918) 732 - 7635.

EXECUTIVE A2

District Court Fillings and notices

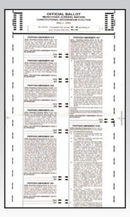


COMMUNITY A3

Community Calendar

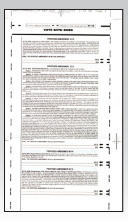
ELECTION A4

Sample election ballot



ELECTION A5

Sample election ballot



HEALTH A6

Know your medicine: Why keep a list of prescription and over-the-counter medications?

EDUCATION A8

Finding and winning scholarships: Part I

Muscogee Nation News
STAFF
Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
Senior Writer - Angel Ellis
Cultural Reporter - Ruth Bible
Feature Writer - Gerald Wofford
Sports Writer - Jason Salsman
Photojournalist - Starla Bush
Reporter - Joshua Slane
Reporter - Jennifer Taryole
Graphic Design - Crystal Lumpkin
Graphic Design - Tyler Roberds
Circulation - Wilma Murphy

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News*** unless other copyrights are shown.

Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

District Court filings for June 2009

The District Court filings from June 1, 2009 thru June 30, 2009 are as follows:

Civil:

Thomas Wind v. Sharon Butler	Petition
Saber Acceptance Co., v. Kenneth Wagner	Foreign Judgment
Jeffrey Searcy v. Chanell Eubanks	Petition
Horizon Credit Inc., v. Jason Wooley	Foreign Judgment
Richard Cruz v. Smithkline Beecham	Verified Complaint
Julie Magers v. Jarrod Sill	Petition
Katherine Harrison v.Norman Whitlow-Fields Jr.	Petition
Charles Moham v. Jennifer Kitchens	Petition
Charles Moham v. Deana Bias	Petition
Cash Security v. Raymond Bannister	Small Claims
Cash Security v. Melissa Pitterman	Small Claims
Western Finance v. Kristen Terrapin	Foreign Judgment
Kayla Byrd v. Casey Lee	Petition
Melissa Lewis v. Tallo Williams	Petition
Shannon Perryman v. Sammy Perryman	Petition
Cash Depot v. Robert Gentry	Small Claims
Nathaniel Ashley v. Brandy Shelby	Petition
Charles Downum v. Lisa Russell	Petition
Southcrest Hospital v. Cassandra Thomason	Foreign JUdgment
Loan Plus v. Amy Johnston	Small Claims
Loan Plus v. Renee Jones	Small Claims
QC Financial Services v. Sandra Roberts	Small Claims
Malissa Beaver v. Jay Beaver	Petition

Divorce:

J.C. Bradley Seamon v. Ashley Seamon	Divorce
Kiana Matlock v. Jonathan Matlock	Divorce
Tarrah Hand v. Jimmy Hand	Divorce
Alene Warhop v. Willie Warhop	Divorce
Tishena Boring v. Edward Boring	Divorce
April Harjo v. Issac Harjo	Divorce
Donna Givens v. Samuel Givens	Divorce
Adrienne Tuggle v. Christopher Tuggle	Divorce
Tiesha Fields v. Shane Fields	Divorce
Johnny Morgan Jr., v. Laura Morgan	Divorce
Ursula McGuirk v. Jarod McGuirk	Divorce

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex reI., Christy Coggburn v. Floyd Bales	Child Support
OCSE, ex reI., Shannon Broncho v. Charles Broncho	Child Support
OCSE, ex reI., Kari Cruz v. LeeRoy Payne	Child Support
OCSE, ex reI., Rana Hickman v. Michael Hickman	Child Support
OCSE, ex reI., Marianna Watashe v. Patrick Whinery	Child Support
OCSE, ex reI., Tom Goddard Jr., v. Dara Wilbourn	Child Support

Ex-Parte:	Ex-Parte
Jewel Roastingear v. David Roastingear	Ex-Parte
Tiffany Leist v. David Burchfield	Ex-Parte
Angela Fields v. Johnny Smith	Ex-Parte
Hillary Martin v. Chad Deere	Ex-Parte
Michael Provence v. Casey Richards	Ex-Parte
Johnnie Branson v. Nicklous Froehlich	Ex-Parte
Sharon Whitecloud v. Wynema Hamilton	Ex-Parte
Sharon Whitecloud v. Wynema Hamilton	Ex-Parte

Criminal Misdemeanor

MCN v. Jeffery Henson	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct

Traffic:

MCN v. Johnny Coleman	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Hannah Rhoden	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Herschel Wise	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Walter Turner	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Jeffrey Henson	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Jeffrey Stacy	Ct. 1: No Driver's License
MCN v. Jeffrey Stacy	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Jeffrey Smith	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Mark Owens	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. William McKinney	Ct. 1: No Driver's License
MCN v. William McKinney	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. William McKinney	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Amy Johnson	Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
MCN v. Robin Brooks	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Robin Brooks	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning, and Stopping without Regard to Safety

District Court filings for July 2009

The District Court filings from July 1 through July 31, 2009 are as follows:

Civil:

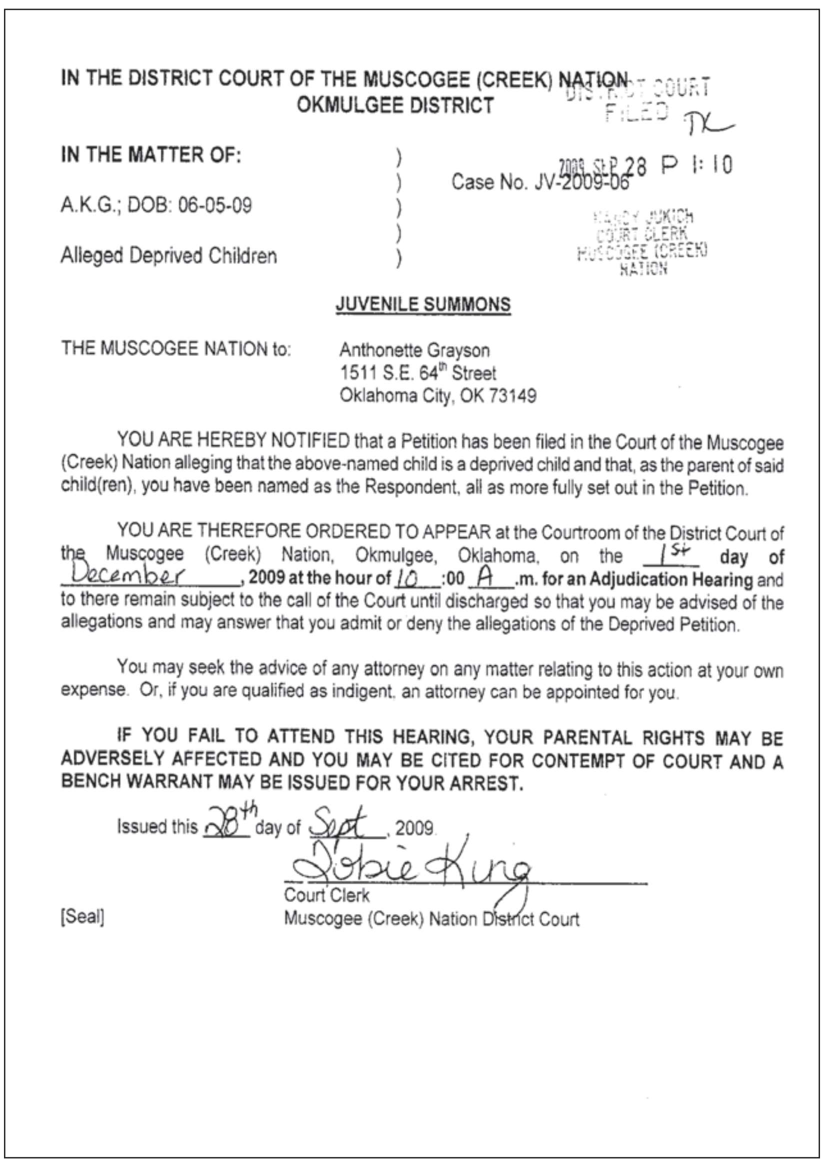
Security Finance v. Sonny Beaver	Small Claims
MCN v. One Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Dollar and no/100 ($1,920.00) Cash Jackpot and Fifty-Nine dollar and no/100 ($59.00) Cash Out Ticket	Forfeiture
Bea Ann Epperson, dba Eppco Builder's v. Thomas Vahola, Shirlene Ade, Bill Fife, Johnnie Greene, David Hill, Darrell Proctor, Cherrah Ridge-Quiett, Roger Barnett, Robert Hufft, Travis Scott, Carmin Tecumseh, Steve Bruner, Paula Willits, Ronald Cleghorn, Eddie Lagrone, Larry Cahwee, Adam Jones, Lena Wind, Kara Medina, Selina Jayne-Dornan Samual Alexander	Petition
Sissey Smith v. Isaac Simpson	Petition
Angela Ramos v. William Leaf	Petition
Hillary Martin v. Chad Deere	Petition
National Quik Cash v. Amber Dearman	Small Claims
MCN v. 2002 Kia Sportage SUV Maroon, VIN # KNDJB723625126819	Forfeiture
MCN v. One Thousand Six Hundred Dollars and no/100 (1,600) Jackpot	Forfeiture
Progressive Car Finance v. Volanda Wilkins	Petition
Autumn Alexander v. Christopher Boyd	Petition
Royal Finance v. Sharla Harjo	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Clifton Sands	Small Claims
Banner Finance v. Clifton Sands	Small Claims
Mitchell Siefried v. Simone Wasson	Petition
Southcrest Hospital v. Christopher Cochran	Foreign Judgment
Royal Finance v. Kara Gann	Small Claims
Francis & Bob Nick v. Mark Hanson	Foreign Judgment

Continued on Page B8

Results

Continued from A1

Creek District - Seat B		
MONTY L. BUNNY	61	15.06%
LARRY JOE CAHWEE (I)	80	19.75%
GEORGE TIGER	264	65.19%
McIntosh District - Seat B		
ADAM JONES III (I)	284	54.72%
ANTHONY (TONY) NOTARO	165	31.79%
BOBBY SULLIVAN	70	13.49%
Okfuskee District - Seat B		
MARY L. (SEVERS) LEE	102	33.01%
NANCY WEST WATSON	66	21.36%
LENA WIND (I)	141	45.63%
Okmulgee District - Seat B		
JEFFREY S. FIFE	288	36.55%
KEEPER JOHNSON (I)	500	63.45%
Okmulgee District - Seat D		
DAVID B. LEWIS JR.	33	4.37%
CARMIN TECUMSEH-WILLIAMS (I)	229	30.33%
PEARL M. THOMAS	315	41.72%
REBECCA TORRES	178	23.58%
Tulsa District - Seat B		
CAROLYN BURGESS-BILLY	200	49.02%
CHERRAH QUIETT (I)	208	50.98%
Tulsa District - Seat F		
KARA MEDINA (I)	204	47.11%
RICHARD E. "RICK" WILDE	99	22.86%
CAROL McHENRY-WILLIAMS	130	30.02



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED TK

2009 SEP 28 P 1:10

NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) Case No. JV-2009-06
A.K.G.; DOB: 06-05-09)
)
Alleged Deprived Children)

JUVENILE SUMMONS

THE MUSCOGEE NATION to: Anthonette Grayson
1511 S.E. 64th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73149

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation alleging that the above-named child is a deprived child and that, as the parent of said child(ren), you have been named as the Respondent, all as more fully set out in the Petition.

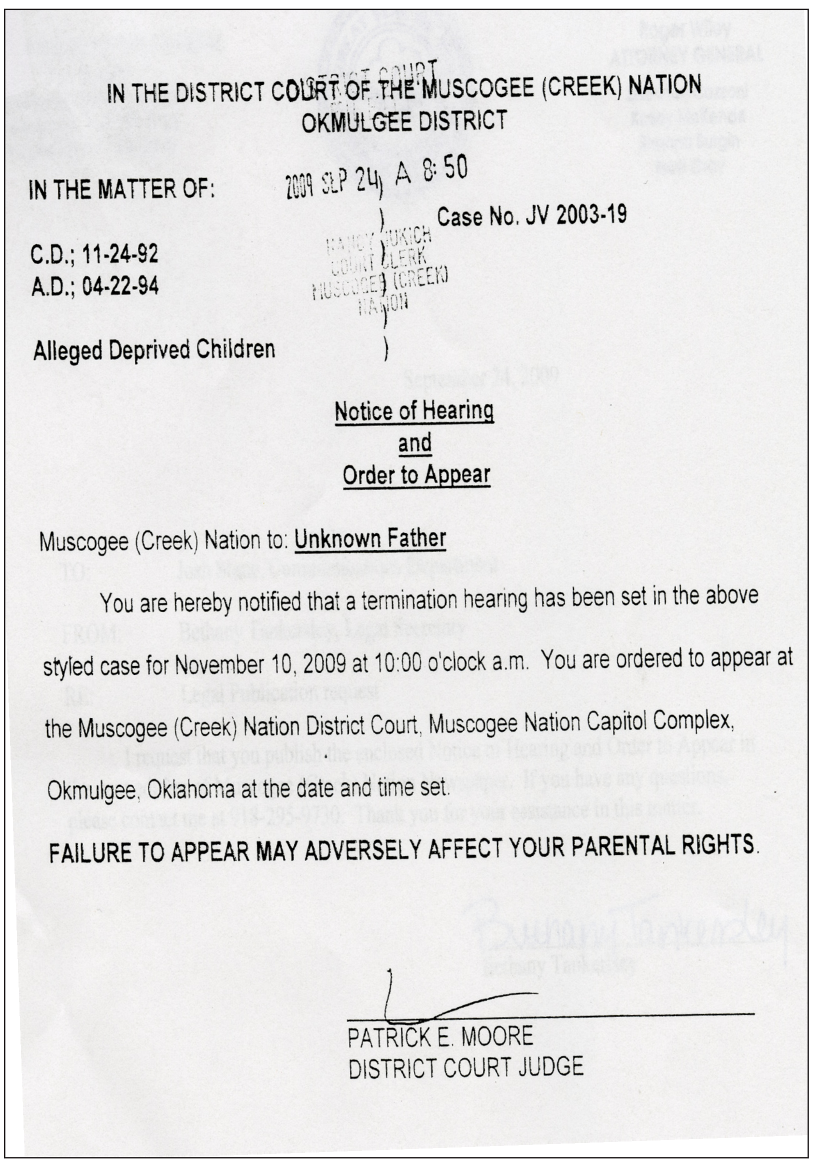
YOU ARE THEREFORE ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 1st **day of** December, **2009 at the hour of** 10:00 A**.m. for an Adjudication Hearing** and to there remain subject to the call of the Court until discharged so that you may be advised of the allegations and may answer that you admit or deny the allegations of the Deprived Petition.

You may seek the advice of any attorney on any matter relating to this action at your own expense. Or, if you are qualified as indigent, an attorney can be appointed for you.

IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THIS HEARING, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND YOU MAY BE CITED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT AND A BENCH WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST.

Issued this 28th day of Sept, 2009

Tobie King
Court Clerk
[Seal] Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT

2009 SEP 24 A 8:50

NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) Case No. JV 2003-19
C.D.; 11-24-92)
A.D.; 04-22-94)
)
Alleged Deprived Children)

Notice of Hearing
and
Order to Appear

Muscogee (Creek) Nation to: Unknown Father

You are hereby notified that a termination hearing has been set in the above styled case for November 10, 2009 at 10:00 o'clock a.m. You are ordered to appear at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Muscogee Nation Capitol Complex, Okmulgee, Oklahoma at the date and time set.

FAILURE TO APPEAR MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS.

PATRICK E. MOORE
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

Letters to the Editor

Citizen raises concern regarding telephones for elders

OKMULGEE — On August 1, 2008, I moved into the MCN Elderly Housing in Okmulgee. Each elderly person living here, I learned, was waiting to have a telephone installed in case there was an emergency so he or she could call 911, that I thought was a great thing. After a month went by and no phone, I contacted Terrie Anderson, my Council Representative to check on this. She got back to me very quickly and informed me that it would be January 2009 before we would have our phones.

So when January 2009 came and went and we were now into April and still no phones, I thought I better do some inquiring of my own. For the next three months I was told, "We're looking at sixty days," "...very soon," "...getting close," "...we're working on it every day," "...we're down to the last 20 percent."

Then more delays came up because the communication building that was constructed to house all the phone lines was showing cracks along its walls and the wrong door had been installed, so now bids were sent out to correct these flaws. However, the Contractor who had built the building was still under warranty and he was required to fix the problems that resulted into more delays.

The people I have talked to during my inquiry are Ted Tamage, Claude Sumner, Mike Flud, Ron Raper and Dean Williams.

As of this writing, here at the MCN Elderly Housing, we are still waiting on our phones. There are four elderly residents who live here who have no phones at all. I hope and pray that none of those four will need to call 911 in case of a life and death emergency.

- Bob Hicks
MCN Elderly Housing resident

Citizen thanks Summer Lawn Care Program staff

OKLAHOMA CITY — I want to thank Jackson Barnett and the summer lawn care program crew for taking care of my grass all summer. The staff have all been very helpful and had great attitudes while they are working.

I'm wheelchair-bound and 70 years old, so it would be very difficult to cut my own grass. I have a son in the service in Afghanistan, so I appreciate the Creek Nation being able to do this for me since he cannot.

- Anna Lowe

CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

2009 Fall Cultural Day and Fall Festival

OKMULGEE — On Friday, Oct. 9, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care will sponsor the 2009 Fall Cultural Day from 10 a.m., to 1 p.m., at the main complex.

Traditional food will be available for sampling along with stomp dance and craft demonstrations which will take place throughout the day. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation royalty will be in attendance and the story of the pre-removal of the Creeks will be told.

On Friday, Oct. 15, Child Care will also sponsor a Fall Festival featuring free hot dogs, candy, hay rides, a costume contest and prizes from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., on the south side of Mound Building off Hwy 75.

For more information, please contact the Office of Child Care at (918) 732-7680 or toll free at 1 (800) 205-3705.

Haskell Alumni Reunion

TULSA — On Oct. 9-11, the Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma invites all Haskell alumni and friends to attended the annual Haskell reunion.

The reunion will be held at the Radisson Inn located at 10918 E. 41st Street near Garnett and 41st Streets in Tulsa, Okla.

For more information contact Flo Spotted Bear at (918) 948-2505.

C&FS Angel Tree

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services is currently selling chances to win a $200 gift card to Wal-mart to help fund their angel tree for children in custody.

If you would like to buy a chance to win, tickets are priced at two for $1.00. The drawing will be held Friday, Oct. 15, 2009 and participants mustn't be present to win.

For more information, please contact Cynthia at (918) 732-7878.

Haikey Chapel Indian taco sale

TULSA — Haikey Chapel will be having an Indian taco sale Sunday, Oct. 17, 2009. Tacos will cost $7.00. The church is located at 8515 E 101st Street, Tulsa, OK.

For more information, please contact Rev. July Tecumseh at (918) 681-6175.

Springfield UMC seeks bids

OKEMAH—Springfield United Methodist Church is now seeking constructions bids for an outside pavilion. The pavilion will be approximately 40ft x 70ft. Complete details of drawing will be available at the time of fact to face consultation. If interested, please call (405) 650-3332 and ask for Clarence.

A date and time will then be made available for consultation and details or write to Springfield Methodist Church P.O. Box 182, Okemah, OK. 74859.

AARP seeks Indian elder nominations

OKLAHOMA CITY — AARP Oklahoma announced it is seeking nominations for its 2009 Indian Elders Honors.

The association will recognize 50 American Indians over the age of 50 who have made a positive contribution to their respective tribe and/or the state of Oklahoma. Honorees need not be an AARP member but must be a member of one of the 37-federally recognized tribes of Oklahoma.

Nominations will be accepted for the 2009 AARP Indian Elder Honors from now until Oct. 31.

To nominate a candidate, please send a 250 word or less description of the person and the positive influence, the tribe, full contact information for nominee and person making nominations to cedavis@aarp.org, or mail to AARP Indian Elders Honors, at 126 North Bryant, in Edmond, OK. 73034.

Glenpool Fellowship Indian taco sale

GLENPOOL — Indian taco sale to be held at Glenpool Fellowship, 14440 S. Elwood Ave., in Glenpool, Okla., Oct. 9, from 4 p.m.-8 p.m., Oct.10, from 11 a.m.-3pm, Oct. 23, from 4 p.m.-8 p.m., Oct. 24, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Oct. 25, on fourth Sunday.

October Wednesday night activities will include a confirmation class "Grow in the Body," Oct. 7, Singing Oct. 14, a Bible study Oct. 21, and Family Night on Oct. 28.

Kialegee Festival

WETUMKA — Activities to be held on Oct. 10 will include lunch from 12 p.m.-2 p.m., food bingo from 2 p.m.-6 p.m., and gospel singing beginning at 7 p.m.

3-on-3 Basketball, boys and girls, entry fee $40, ages 10-12, 13-15, 16-18. Deadline for entry is Oct. 9. Games begin at 9am on Oct. 10.

Co-ed Volleyball entry fee is $20, Deadline to enter is Oct. 9. Winners will receive the pot.

Horseshoes entry fee is $10 for singles. Winner prize is the pot.

Vendors are welcome, there is a $25 set-up fee. For more information call (405) 452-3262.

OKC Muscogee (Creek) Association meeting

OKLAHOMA CITY — On the first Tuesday of every month the OKC Muscogee Creek Association holds a monthly community meeting. Available at the meeting are Creek culture, fellowship, tribal updates, OCMA social services/community activities and events.

Meetings begin at 6:30 p.m., each Tuesday and take place at 1500 NE 4th Street, Suite 104 Oklahoma City, OK 73101. For more information call (405) 605-2621 or okc_creeks@yahoo.com.

Indian Taco Sale

OKMULGEE — The Proctor Family is taking orders for their Indian taco sale from now until Oct. 15, 2009. The sale will be held Sat., Oct. 16. Taco and desert are $6.00. Delivery is available. To place an order call (918) 752-6270 or (918) 758-6674.

Challenge Bowl 2010

TULSA — Registrations forms for the 2010 Challenge Bowl are now available online at www.themuscogeecreeknation.com. Deadline for registration is Jan. 8, 2010 at 5 p.m.

The Challenge Bowl will be held at the new location at Bell Annex located at 209 S. Lakewood in Tulsa, Okla.

The Elementary competition will be held Feb. 11, 2010, followed by Middle School on Feb. 18. The High School competition will be held last on Feb. 25.

For more information contact Virginia Thomas at (918) 732-7842.

CMHI

Children's Mental Health Initiative

Protecting the Future

"NETTV-OREN VKETECETVN"

Program goals

- Expand access to services for children and adolescents through out the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.
- Offer individual services based on the child and family's situation.

Population of Focus

- Native American youth and their families who are struggling with an emotional issue and/or substance abuse.
- Infants and young adults from birth to 21 years.
- Children and youth involved with child welfare system.

We need your help!

- Help promote community involvement.
- Help us locate the children/youth in need.
- Inform other community members about CMHI.

For more information call (918) 224-9307
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Children's Mental Health Initiative

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IN ADULTS

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kctxs.com

Quapaw Counseling Services
Oklahoma City
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qcs-okc.com

Miami
918-542-1786
quapawcounselingservices.com

MOVIE NIGHT!

ATTN: UNITED STATES NAVY VETERANS

In Honor of Muscogee Veterans
the VASO will be hosting
"MOVIE NIGHT"
(Thursday, 15 Oct 2009)
To Celebrate The Birth Month Of The United States Navy
(13 October 1775)

- Showtime - 1800 Hrs. - Thursday, 15 October 2009
- Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
- Movie - **THE BRIDGES AT TOKO-RI** **(with William Holden, Grace Kelly and Mickey Rooney)**
- Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
- Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
- Smoking Lamp is Lit
- Price of Admission - Navy Veterans must wear their MCN Veterans Vest (If you do not have a vest bring in your DD-214 to be measured for a MCN Veterans vest).
- Muscogee Navy Veterans are now allowed to bring one guest (Please limit to only one guest)
- **"Movie Night"** is for Muscogee Veterans only (Plus one guest)
- Any questions call Shawn Taryole at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7745

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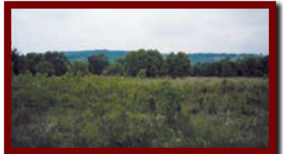
601 S. Wilson Ave....................................... $119,900
Enjoy family and friends in the beautifully remodeled 3 bedroom home located on 3 lots in Okmulgee! New Silestone countertops, paint, Bruce woodflooring, Anderson windows, and custom shutters. 3 car garage with storage above.

Enterprise Building w/ parking lot............. $59,500
30+ offices, working elevator, top 2 floors open space. Full of potential and great view of Okmulgee.



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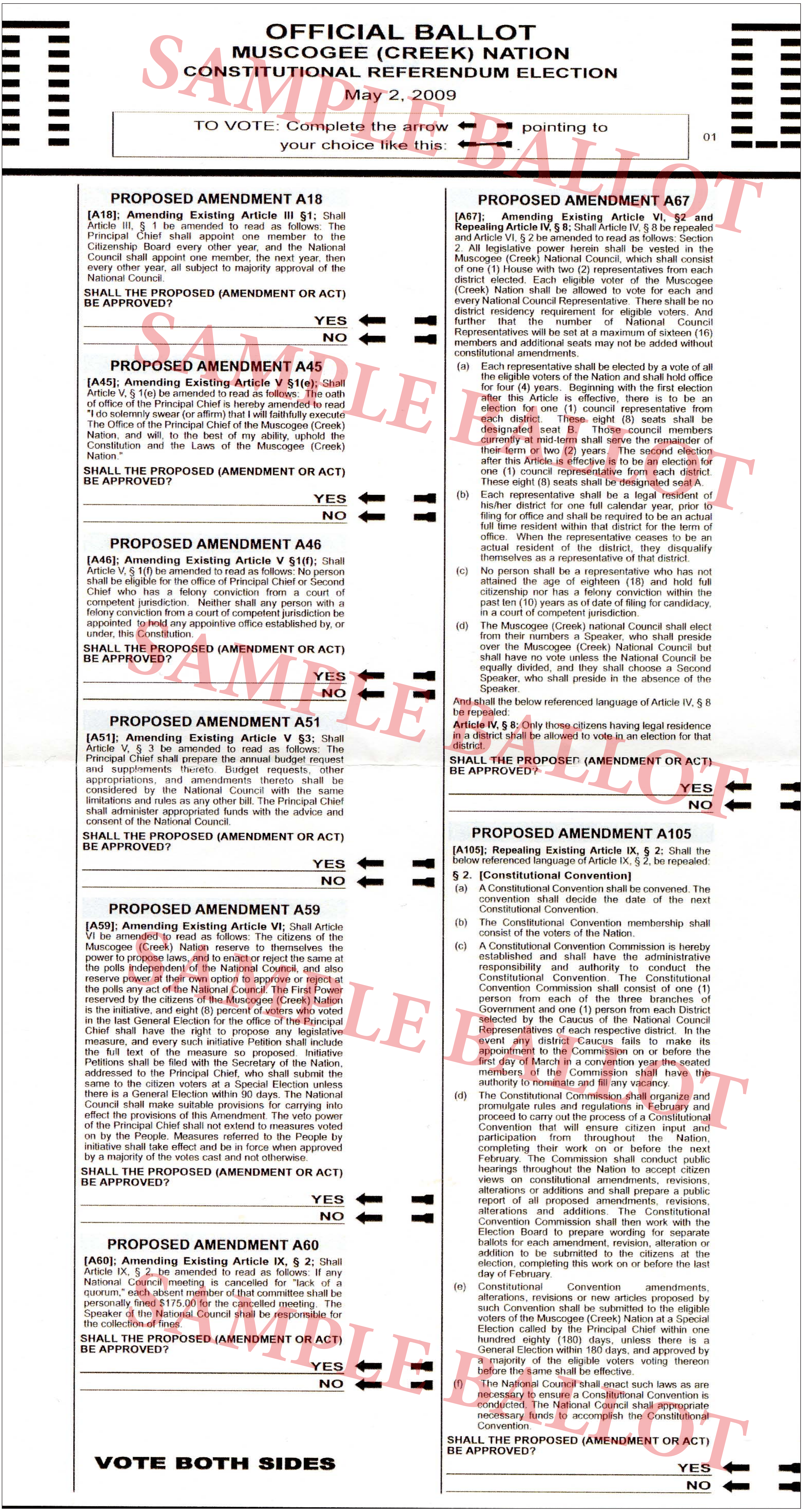
holly.walters@sbcglobal.net

MLS

To view more Okmulgee listings, go to www.hollywaltersrealestate.com
Native American Owned Company



SAMPLE BALLOT

OFFICIAL BALLOT
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENDUM ELECTION
May 2, 2009

TO VOTE: Complete the arrow ← ▬ pointing to your choice like this: ←▬.

01

PROPOSED AMENDMENT A18

[A18]; Amending Existing Article III §1; Shall Article III, § 1 be amended to read as follows: The Principal Chief shall appoint one member to the Citizenship Board every other year, and the National Council shall appoint one member, the next year, then every other year, all subject to majority approval of the National Council.

SHALL THE PROPOSED (AMENDMENT OR ACT) BE APPROVED?

YES ← ▬

NO ← ▬

PROPOSED AMENDMENT A45

[A45]; Amending Existing Article V §1(e); Shall Article V, § 1(e) be amended to read as follows: The oath of office of the Principal Chief is hereby amended to read "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute The Office of the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and will, to the best of my ability, uphold the Constitution and the Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation."

SHALL THE PROPOSED (AMENDMENT OR ACT) BE APPROVED?

YES ← ▬

NO ← ▬

PROPOSED AMENDMENT A46

[A46]; Amending Existing Article V §1(f); Shall Article V, § 1(f) be amended to read as follows: No person shall be eligible for the office of Principal Chief or Second Chief who has a felony conviction from a court of competent jurisdiction. Neither shall any person with a felony conviction from a court of competent jurisdiction be appointed to hold any appointive office established by, or under, this Constitution.

SHALL THE PROPOSED (AMENDMENT OR ACT) BE APPROVED?

YES ← ▬

NO ← ▬

PROPOSED AMENDMENT A51

[A51]; Amending Existing Article V §3; Shall Article V, § 3 be amended to read as follows: The Principal Chief shall prepare the annual budget request and supplements thereto. Budget requests, other appropriations, and amendments thereto shall be considered by the National Council with the same limitations and rules as any other bill. The Principal Chief shall administer appropriated funds with the advice and consent of the National Council.

SHALL THE PROPOSED (AMENDMENT OR ACT) BE APPROVED?

YES ← ▬

NO ← ▬

PROPOSED AMENDMENT A59

[A59]; Amending Existing Article VI; Shall Article VI be amended to read as follows: The citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation reserve to themselves the power to propose laws, and to enact or reject the same at the polls independent of the National Council, and also reserve power at their own option to approve or reject at the polls any act of the National Council. The First Power reserved by the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is the initiative, and eight (8) percent of voters who voted in the last General Election for the office of the Principal Chief shall have the right to propose any legislative measure, and every such initiative Petition shall include the full text of the measure so proposed. Initiative Petitions shall be filed with the Secretary of the Nation, addressed to the Principal Chief, who shall submit the same to the citizen voters at a Special Election unless there is a General Election within 90 days. The National Council shall make suitable provisions for carrying into effect the provisions of this Amendment. The veto power of the Principal Chief shall not extend to measures voted on by the People. Measures referred to the People by initiative shall take effect and be in force when approved by a majority of the votes cast and not otherwise.

SHALL THE PROPOSED (AMENDMENT OR ACT) BE APPROVED?

YES ← ▬

NO ← ▬

PROPOSED AMENDMENT A60

[A60]; Amending Existing Article IX, § 2; Shall Article IX, § 2, be amended to read as follows: If any National Council meeting is cancelled for "lack of a quorum," each absent member of that committee shall be personally fined $175.00 for the cancelled meeting. The Speaker of the National Council shall be responsible for the collection of fines.

SHALL THE PROPOSED (AMENDMENT OR ACT) BE APPROVED?

YES ← ▬

NO ← ▬

VOTE BOTH SIDES

PROPOSED AMENDMENT A67

[A67]; Amending Existing Article VI, §2 and Repealing Article IV, § 8; Shall Article IV, § 8 be repealed and Article VI, § 2 be amended to read as follows: Section 2. All legislative power herein shall be vested in the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, which shall consist of one (1) House with two (2) representatives from each district elected. Each eligible voter of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be allowed to vote for each and every National Council Representative. There shall be no district residency requirement for eligible voters. And further that the number of National Council Representatives will be set at a maximum of sixteen (16) members and additional seats may not be added without constitutional amendments.

(a) Each representative shall be elected by a vote of all the eligible voters of the Nation and shall hold office for four (4) years. Beginning with the first election after this Article is effective, there is to be an election for one (1) council representative from each district. These eight (8) seats shall be designated seat B. Those council members currently at mid-term shall serve the remainder of their term or two (2) years. The second election after this Article is effective is to be an election for one (1) council representative from each district. These eight (8) seats shall be designated seat A.

(b) Each representative shall be a legal resident of his/her district for one full calendar year, prior to filing for office and shall be required to be an actual full time resident within that district for the term of office. When the representative ceases to be an actual resident of the district, they disqualify themselves as a representative of that district.

(c) No person shall be a representative who has not attained the age of eighteen (18) and hold full citizenship nor has a felony conviction within the past ten (10) years as of date of filing for candidacy, in a court of competent jurisdiction.

(d) The Muscogee (Creek) national Council shall elect from their numbers a Speaker, who shall preside over the Muscogee (Creek) National Council but shall have no vote unless the National Council be equally divided, and they shall choose a Second Speaker, who shall preside in the absence of the Speaker.

And shall the below referenced language of Article IV, § 8 be repealed:

Article IV, § 8: Only those citizens having legal residence in a district shall be allowed to vote in an election for that district.

SHALL THE PROPOSED (AMENDMENT OR ACT) BE APPROVED?

YES ←

NO ←

PROPOSED AMENDMENT A105

[A105]; Repealing Existing Article IX, § 2; Shall the below referenced language of Article IX, § 2, be repealed:

§ 2. [Constitutional Convention]

(a) A Constitutional Convention shall be convened. The convention shall decide the date of the next Constitutional Convention.

(b) The Constitutional Convention membership shall consist of the voters of the Nation.

(c) A Constitutional Convention Commission is hereby established and shall have the administrative responsibility and authority to conduct the Constitutional Convention. The Constitutional Convention Commission shall consist of one (1) person from each of the three branches of Government and one (1) person from each District selected by the Caucus of the National Council Representatives of each respective district. In the event any district Caucus fails to make its appointment to the Commission on or before the first day of March in a convention year the seated members of the Commission shall have the authority to nominate and fill any vacancy.

(d) The Constitutional Commission shall organize and promulgate rules and regulations in February and proceed to carry out the process of a Constitutional Convention that will ensure citizen input and participation from throughout the Nation, completing their work on or before the next February. The Commission shall conduct public hearings throughout the Nation to accept citizen views on constitutional amendments, revisions, alterations or additions and shall prepare a public report of all proposed amendments, revisions, alterations and additions. The Constitutional Convention Commission shall then work with the Election Board to prepare wording for separate ballots for each amendment, revision, alteration or addition to be submitted to the citizens at the election, completing this work on or before the last day of February.

(e) Constitutional Convention amendments, alterations, revisions or new articles proposed by such Convention shall be submitted to the eligible voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at a Special Election called by the Principal Chief within one hundred eighty (180) days, unless there is a General Election within 180 days, and approved by a majority of the eligible voters voting thereon before the same shall be effective.

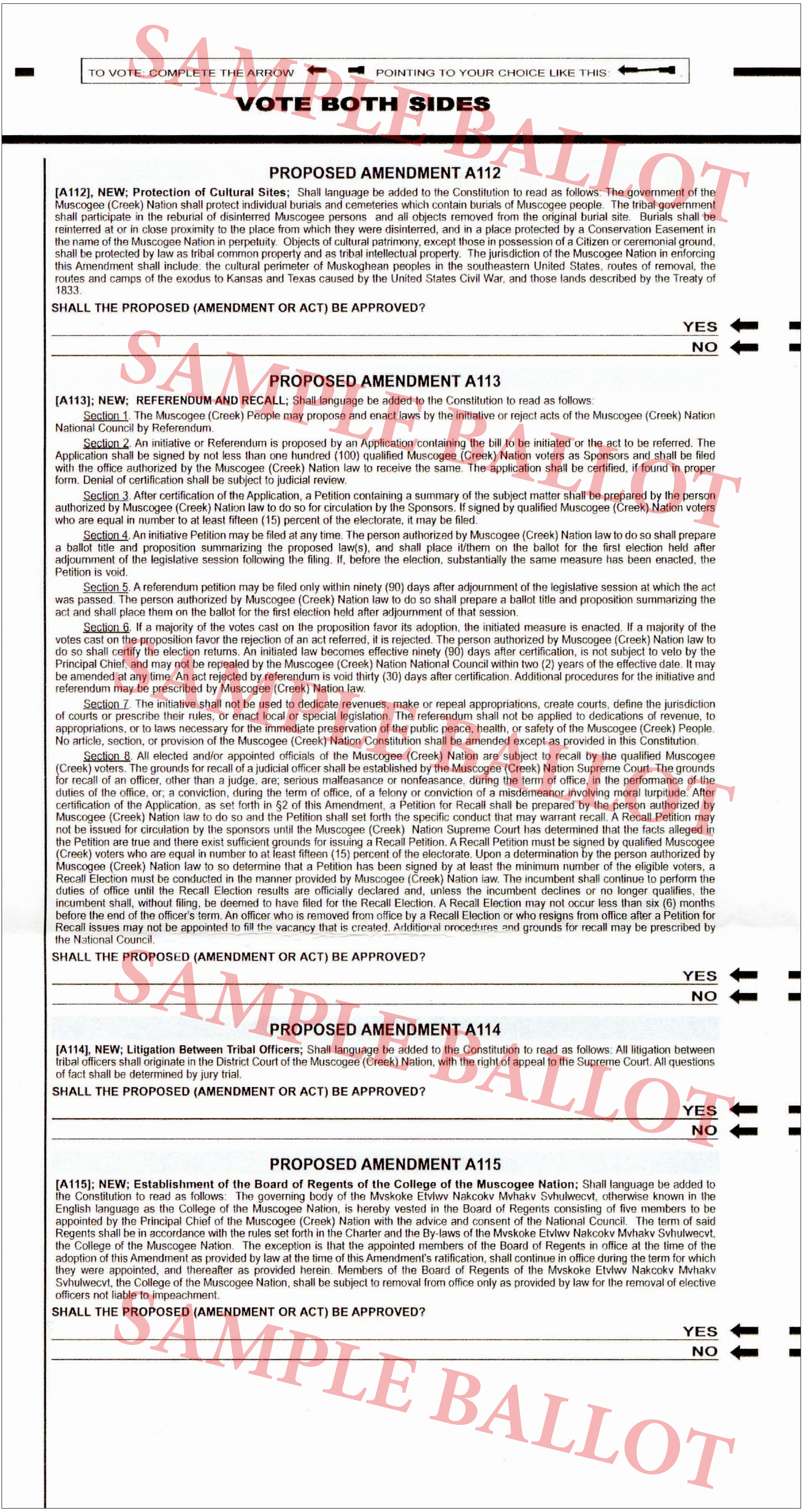
(f) The National Council shall enact such laws as are necessary to ensure a Constitutional Convention is conducted. The National Council shall appropriate necessary funds to accomplish the Constitutional Convention.

SHALL THE PROPOSED (AMENDMENT OR ACT) BE APPROVED?

YES ←

NO ←

ELECTION



SAMPLE BALLOT

TO VOTE: COMPLETE THE ARROW ← ▬ POINTING TO YOUR CHOICE LIKE THIS: ⟵

VOTE BOTH SIDES

PROPOSED AMENDMENT A112

[A112], NEW; Protection of Cultural Sites; Shall language be added to the Constitution to read as follows: The government of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall protect individual burials and cemeteries which contain burials of Muscogee people. The tribal government shall participate in the reburial of disinterred Muscogee persons and all objects removed from the original burial site. Burials shall be reinterred at or in close proximity to the place from which they were disinterred, and in a place protected by a Conservation Easement in the name of the Muscogee Nation in perpetuity. Objects of cultural patrimony, except those in possession of a Citizen or ceremonial ground, shall be protected by law as tribal common property and as tribal intellectual property. The jurisdiction of the Muscogee Nation in enforcing this Amendment shall include: the cultural perimeter of Muskoghean peoples in the southeastern United States, routes of removal, the routes and camps of the exodus to Kansas and Texas caused by the United States Civil War, and those lands described by the Treaty of 1833.

SHALL THE PROPOSED (AMENDMENT OR ACT) BE APPROVED?

YES ←

NO ←

PROPOSED AMENDMENT A113

[A113]; NEW; REFERENDUM AND RECALL; Shall language be added to the Constitution to read as follows:

Section 1. The Muscogee (Creek) People may propose and enact laws by the initiative or reject acts of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council by Referendum.

Section 2. An initiative or Referendum is proposed by an Application containing the bill to be initiated or the act to be referred. The Application shall be signed by not less than one hundred (100) qualified Muscogee (Creek) Nation voters as Sponsors and shall be filed with the office authorized by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation law to receive the same. The application shall be certified, if found in proper form. Denial of certification shall be subject to judicial review.

Section 3. After certification of the Application, a Petition containing a summary of the subject matter shall be prepared by the person authorized by Muscogee (Creek) Nation law to do so for circulation by the Sponsors. If signed by qualified Muscogee (Creek) Nation voters who are equal in number to at least fifteen (15) percent of the electorate, it may be filed.

Section 4. An initiative Petition may be filed at any time. The person authorized by Muscogee (Creek) Nation law to do so shall prepare a ballot title and proposition summarizing the proposed law(s), and shall place it/them on the ballot for the first election held after adjournment of the legislative session following the filing. If, before the election, substantially the same measure has been enacted, the Petition is void.

Section 5. A referendum petition may be filed only within ninety (90) days after adjournment of the legislative session at which the act was passed. The person authorized by Muscogee (Creek) Nation law to do so shall prepare a ballot title and proposition summarizing the act and shall place them on the ballot for the first election held after adjournment of that session.

Section 6. If a majority of the votes cast on the proposition favor its adoption, the initiated measure is enacted. If a majority of the votes cast on the proposition favor the rejection of an act referred, it is rejected. The person authorized by Muscogee (Creek) Nation law to do so shall certify the election returns. An initiated law becomes effective ninety (90) days after certification, is not subject to veto by the Principal Chief, and may not be repealed by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council within two (2) years of the effective date. It may be amended at any time. An act rejected by referendum is void thirty (30) days after certification. Additional procedures for the initiative and referendum may be prescribed by Muscogee (Creek) Nation law.

Section 7. The initiative shall not be used to dedicate revenues, make or repeal appropriations, create courts, define the jurisdiction of courts or prescribe their rules, or enact local or special legislation. The referendum shall not be applied to dedications of revenue, to appropriations, or to laws necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety of the Muscogee (Creek) People. No article, section, or provision of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution shall be amended except as provided in this Constitution.

Section 8. All elected and/or appointed officials of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation are subject to recall by the qualified Muscogee (Creek) voters. The grounds for recall of a judicial officer shall be established by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court. The grounds for recall of an officer, other than a judge, are; serious malfeasance or nonfeasance, during the term of office, in the performance of the duties of the office, or; a conviction, during the term of office, of a felony or conviction of a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude. After certification of the Application, as set forth in §2 of this Amendment, a Petition for Recall shall be prepared by the person authorized by Muscogee (Creek) Nation law to do so and the Petition shall set forth the specific conduct that may warrant recall. A Recall Petition may not be issued for circulation by the sponsors until the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court has determined that the facts alleged in the Petition are true and there exist sufficient grounds for issuing a Recall Petition. A Recall Petition must be signed by qualified Muscogee (Creek) voters who are equal in number to at least fifteen (15) percent of the electorate. Upon a determination by the person authorized by Muscogee (Creek) Nation law to so determine that a Petition has been signed by at least the minimum number of the eligible voters, a Recall Election must be conducted in the manner provided by Muscogee (Creek) Nation law. The incumbent shall continue to perform the duties of office until the Recall Election results are officially declared and, unless the incumbent declines or no longer qualifies, the incumbent shall, without filing, be deemed to have filed for the Recall Election. A Recall Election may not occur less than six (6) months before the end of the officer's term. An officer who is removed from office by a Recall Election or who resigns from office after a Petition for Recall issues may not be appointed to fill the vacancy that is created. Additional procedures and grounds for recall may be prescribed by the National Council.

SHALL THE PROPOSED (AMENDMENT OR ACT) BE APPROVED?

YES ←

NO ←

PROPOSED AMENDMENT A114

[A114], NEW; Litigation Between Tribal Officers; Shall language be added to the Constitution to read as follows: All litigation between tribal officers shall originate in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, with the right of appeal to the Supreme Court. All questions of fact shall be determined by jury trial.

SHALL THE PROPOSED (AMENDMENT OR ACT) BE APPROVED?

YES ←

NO ←

PROPOSED AMENDMENT A115

[A115]; NEW; Establishment of the Board of Regents of the College of the Muscogee Nation; Shall language be added to the Constitution to read as follows: The governing body of the Mvskoke Etvlwv Nakcokv Mvhakv Svhulwecvt, otherwise known in the English language as the College of the Muscogee Nation, is hereby vested in the Board of Regents consisting of five members to be appointed by the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation with the advice and consent of the National Council. The term of said Regents shall be in accordance with the rules set forth in the Charter and the By-laws of the Mvskoke Etvlwv Nakcokv Mvhakv Svhulwecvt, the College of the Muscogee Nation. The exception is that the appointed members of the Board of Regents in office at the time of the adoption of this Amendment as provided by law at the time of this Amendment's ratification, shall continue in office during the term for which they were appointed, and thereafter as provided herein. Members of the Board of Regents of the Mvskoke Etvlwv Nakcokv Mvhakv Svhulwecvt, the College of the Muscogee Nation, shall be subject to removal from office only as provided by law for the removal of elective officers not liable to impeachment.

SHALL THE PROPOSED (AMENDMENT OR ACT) BE APPROVED?

YES ←

NO ←

Seasonal H1N1/Swine Influenza: information on prevention for the general public

by Teri Garner, ARNP
Okmulgee Indian Health Clinic

OKMULGEE — The flu has made its appearance in Oklahoma. Flu viruses appear every year; this is known as the seasonal flu. This year is different in that there is a second type of flu. It has been called by several names; swine flu, H1N1, novel H1N1, and Mexican flu, to name a few. The current terminology being used by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and State Health Department is 2009 H1N1. The vast majority of flu being seen currently is 2009 H1N1. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health wants to keep citizens informed about the flu, so this informational article was developed to answer questions citizens may have. The information contained in the questions applies to seasonal flu as well as 2009 H1N1 flu.

What is 2009 H1N1 (swine flu)?

2009 H1N1 (referred to as "swine flu" early on) is a new influenza virus causing illness in people. This new virus was first detected in people in the United States in April 2009. This virus is spreading from person-to-person worldwide, probably in much the same way that regular seasonal influenza virus spread. On, June 11, 2009, the World Health Organization (WHO) signaled that a pandemic of 2009 H1N1 flu was underway. A pandemic is an infection that affects the entire world.

How does 2009 H1N1 virus spread?

Spread of 2009 H1N1 virus is thought to occur in the same way that seasonal flu spreads. Flu viruses are spread mainly from person-to-person through coughing or sneezing by people with influenza. Sometimes people may become infected by touching something – such as a surface or object–with flu virus on it and then touching their mouth or nose.

What are the signs and symptoms of this virus in people?

The symptoms of 2009 H1N1 and seasonal flu virus in people include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. A significant number of people who have been infected with this virus also reported diarrhea and vomiting. Severe illnesses and death has occurred as a result of illness associated with this virus.

How long can an infected person spread this virus to others?

People infected with seasonal and 2009 H1N1 flu spread virus and may be able to infect others from 1 day before getting sick to 5 to 7 days after.

This can be longer in some people, especially children and people with weakened immune systems and in people infected with the new H1N1 virus.

What can I do to protect myself from getting sick?

There is no vaccine available right now to protect against 2009 H1N1 virus. However, a 2009 H1N1 vaccine is currently in production and may be ready for the public in the fall. The Health Department has not informed the Division how much vaccine will be available. If only a limited amount of vaccine is available people at highest risk of flu complications will need to be vaccinated first.

These people would include pregnant women, those under five and over 65 years of age, and those between the ages of 5-64 with pre-existing health conditions, such as lung disease, heart disease, diabetes, and those with compromised immune systems.

Be assured that the Division of Health will do everything possible to see that the maximum amount of vaccine is received. As always, a vaccine will be available to protect against seasonal influenza. People who are allergic to chicken or eggs should not receive a flu shot. There are precautions that can help prevent the spread of germs that cause respiratory illnesses like influenza.

Take these everyday steps to protect your health:

Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it. Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way. Try to avoid close contact with sick people. If you are sick with flu-like illness, CDC recommends that you stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. (Your fever should be gone without the use of a fever- reducing medicine.) Keep away from others as much as possible to keep from making others sick.

Other important actions that you can take are:

Follow public health advice regarding school closures, avoid crowds and take other social distancing measures. Be prepared in case you get sick and need to stay home for a week or so; a supply of over-the-counter medicines, alcohol-based hand rubs, tissues and other related items are useful and help avoid the need to make trips out in public while you are sick and contagious.

As explained in the previous section, there is a vaccine for the seasonal flu. It is available now at all Muscogee (Creek) Nation Clinics.

A list of Muscogee (Creek) Nation clinics and their phone numbers is provided below. No appointment is necessary to receive a flu shot.

Please do not hesitate to call your local Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Centers if you have any questions about the flu, or any other health concerns. We are here to serve you and will be happy to assist with your health care needs. MVTO!

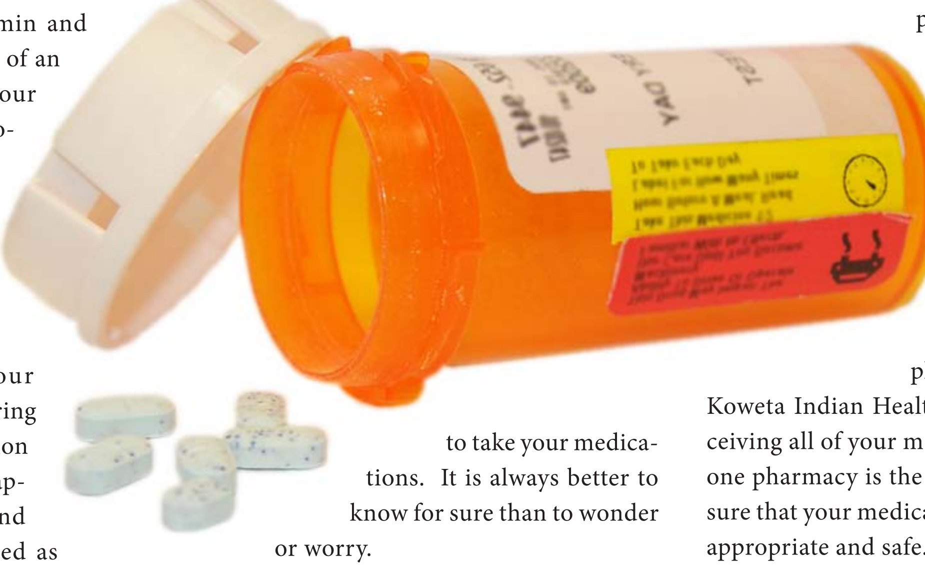
For more information, please visit the official Web site of the Center for Disease Control at: http://cdc.gov/

Know your medicine: Why keep a list of prescription and over-the-counter medications?

Tsianina Neel, BSN, RN
Lisa Todd, BSN, RN
Koweta Indian Health Facility

KOWETA — Why keep a list of your prescription medications and over-the-counter medicines?

Keeping a list of you take, how much, when, and why will help you to understand your provider's plan of care for you. Keep the list in your wallet. Include also any vitamin and herbs. In case of an emergency, your health care providers will be better able to care for you, and you will be actively involved in your healthcare. Bring your medication list to every appointment, and keep it updated as your medicines and dosing changes. If you receive medicine outside the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, this list is very important for your plan of care. After review, it will be placed in your medical record and updated as you receive or change medicines.



If you have more than one health care provider, always tell all of them of any medication changes. Have you started a new medication? Have you stopped taking a medication? These are important questions for you and your health care team. Not all medications work well together.

We have all experienced a relative, friend, or, coworker who thinks they know better than your healthcare team about your medicines. Take your medicine EXACTLY as it is prescribed! Blood pressure medicine is a good example: It is to be taken EVERY day not just when your blood pressure is high. If you are having tests and don't know if you are supposed to eat or not (fasting), ask whether you are supposed to take your medications. It is always better to know for sure than to wonder or worry.

When you pick up your refills read the labels. Make sure it is your medication and that it is the right medication.

Never share your medication with anyone even if someone you know is taking the same thing. Not only is it dangerous, but you will run out before your next refill and this can cause added health problems or an unnecessary trip to the emergency room. Ask about side effects, if there is anything you should avoid doing or, taking. If you should experience a side effect, report it to your health care team which also includes the pharmacist.

With your medication list you will be able to plan when you will need to call for your refills. If you are on your last refill don't wait until 2 days before you run out to call your healthcare provider. Plan ahead since you may have to be seen in order refill your medications. Remember, the pharmacy can not refill medications that are out of refills with out the okay of your health care provider.

"In order to receive the best pharmacy care possible, avoid going from clinic to clinic," says Lacey Blankenship, Pharm.D. LT, USPHS, pharmacist at the Koweta Indian Health Facility. "Receiving all of your medications from one pharmacy is the best way to ensure that your medication regimen is appropriate and safe. Always inform your provider and pharmacist of any over-the-counter or herbal medications your take."

Remember, you as a patient are a vital member of your health care team. Be responsible and active in discussing not only your medications but anything that will help your provider with your plan of care.

References:

www.MyOptumHealth.com What you Don't Know About Medications Can Hurt You, Howard Seidman, Staff Writer

www.partnershipforhealthcare.org What you can do to take your medicines safely

www.healthtalk.umn.edu Physicians need to know which medications you are taking, Timothy Tracy, Ph.D.

HEALTHNOTES

October is national breast cancer awareness month

by Teri Garner, ARNP
Okmulgee Indian Health Clinic

OKMULGEE — October is National Breast Cancer Awareness month, a time to remember the importance of routine breast examinations and mammography screening to help reduce the incidence of this disease. One woman in eight will develop invasive breast cancer in her lifetime and 1,900 men will be diagnosed with breast cancer each year. If detected early, the five-year survival rate for breast cancer exceeds 95 percent.

A Breast Cancer Early Detection Plan should include:

- Monthly breast self-examination beginning at age 20.
- Clinical breast examination by a provider, ages 20-30, every three years.
- Baseline mammogram beginning at age 40.
- Mammogram every one to two years for women 40-49, depending on previous findings.
- Mammogram every year for women 50 and older.
- Personal calendar to record self-exams, mammograms, and doctor appointments.
- A low-fat diet, regular exercise, no smoking, limit drinking alcohol

Risk factors for breast cancer:

- Being Female
- Family history of breast cancer
- Early onset of menses and late menopause
- Diets high in saturated fat
- Late or no pregnancies
- Moderate alcohol intake
- Estrogen replacement therapy
- History of prior breast cancer
- Therapeutic irradiation to chest wall i.e., for Hodgkins Disease (cancer of lymph nodes).
- Moderate obesity

Seventy percent of all breast cancers are found through breast self-exams. If you discover a persistent lump in your breast or any changes in breast tissue, it is very important that you see your provider immediately. Sometimes women stay away from medical care because they fear what they might find.

Mammography is an X-ray examination that can detect breast cancer up to two years before it is large enough to be felt. Do not let tales of other people's experiences keep you from having a mammogram. Base your decision on your provider's recommendation and ask the provider any questions you may have about the mammogram.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation (MCN) Okemah and Koweta clinics provide mammograms on-site and in order to obtain a mammogram from these facilities, patients should schedule an appointment with an MCN Division of Health provider for a clinical breast exam (CBE). The provider can write a referral for patients to have a mammogram as indicated, after which an appointment will be scheduled.

If you have questions, call your provider at the MCN Division of Health clinics: Eufaula – 918-689-2547, Koweta - 918-279-3200, Okemah – 918-623-1424, Okmulgee (918) 758-2717 and Sapulpa (918) 224-9310.

Fishing for essential omega-3s

by Christian Welborn
RD/LD, Koweta Indian Health Facility

OKMULGEE — Omega-3 fatty acids are essential for optimal nutrition, but they are often overlooked. Omega-3s can help lower triglyceride levels, slow the formation of plaque in the arteries, reduce heart arrhythmias, and maybe even lower blood pressure. Now that you have at least heard of omega-3 fatty acids and realize that they are beneficial to your health, where will you find them?

Of course, you will find a bottle labeled "Omega-3" in the supplement aisle and surely your grocery store will be swimming with omega-3s in the seafood department, but did you know that you might find them in the nut aisle as well? Nutty, huh? That is right; walnuts are a good source of omega-3s. Here is a list of foods rich in omega-3 fatty acids: Fatty fish, such as lake trout, herring, sardines, tuna, and salmon, Walnuts, Soy products, such as soy milk, edamame, or tofu, Flaxseed or flax oil, canola oil.

In order to consume enough omega-3 fatty acids, it is recommended that you consume at least two fish meals per week. Local fish known to be a good source of omega-3s are trout and bass. Rather than having fried fish, try a grilled or baked fish like salmon. Mercury content of fish may be a concern, so avoid fish with the highest levels of mercury such as shark, swordfish, tile fish and king mackerel, and choose canned light tuna over albacore tuna. It is important to note that children and pregnant women should completely avoid fish with the highest levels of mercury and only eat up to 12 ounces per week of lower level mercury fish.

You can also try adding some flaxseed to a muffin recipe or sprinkling flaxseed on cereal or yogurt and fruit. Cook with canola oil or snack on walnuts. Any way you serve it up, it is important to take advantage of the benefits of omega-3 fatty acids. Enjoy!

Get trekking for 2009-2010

by Taylor Thompson
Exercise Programs Manager, Koweta

KOWETA—The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Program would like to announce the beginning of the Nene Hvkoce Walking Program for 2009-2010. Sign-ups for the Walking Program will take place in October and they will continue through December. The main goal of the Walking Program is to provide an opportunity for Native Americans to experience the benefits a regular walking routine can have on their health. Walking at least 150 minutes per week can improve overall health and reduce the risk of developing Type II diabetes.

The Walking Program is an exciting opportunity for Native Americans to earn points for the amount of walking they do each day. These points can be turned in monthly for prizes like Nike incentives, T-shirts, and a chance to win an exercise machine.

The Walking Program had nearly 1200 participants last year and even more is expected for 2009-2010. So get out there and join the Walking Program and be active, be healthy, and earn some prizes for your hard work. Please check with your local Diabetes team Exercise Managers for more information on dates and times of sign-ups.

Local Diabetes Teams Exercise Managers: Sapulpa: Duane Meadows (918) 695-1325, Okmulgee: William Fixico (918) 637-9683, Eufaula: Kimberlee Little (918) 637-9684, Okemah: Irene Culley (918) 636-8735, Koweta: Taylor Thompson (918) 807-1561.

PROGRAMS/NOTICES

Contact Election Board to update mailing addresses

Media Release
Election Board

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board is preparing for the 2009 National Council General Election. The following registered voters need to contact the Election Board to update their addresses. The Election Board cannot change your address without your consent. If any of the citizens listed below are deceased, a family member should contact our office in order for the Election Board to remove the deceased from our list. Contact the Election Board at (918) 732-7631, (918) 732-7685 or (918) 732-7685. Changes may also be made in person at the election board located at the main complex in Okmulgee, Okla.

Adams, Gary Wayne
Aldridge, Sophrona
Alexander Bonnie Linn
Alexander Myra Ruth
Alexander, Summer
Alvarez, Tami Renee
Anderson, Herod
Antwine, Sandra
Archer, Claude M
Asbury, Nellie J.
Aubrey, Sheri Lynn
Baker, Leon
Baker, Mark Allen
Baldridge, Shawn David
Bales, Jeffrey Oliver
Banks, Rena Kaye
Barnett, Lucinda Susan
Bear, Anthony
Bear, Curtis
Bear, Henry
Bear, Kelly
Beard, James
Beaver, Alyne F.
Beaver, Brandee
Beaver, Katrina L.
Beaver, Laura Lou
Beaver, Mindy
Beaver, Sr. Ward
Bernard, Bernardine
Berryhil,l Eric
Berryhill, James
Berryhill, Patrick
Bevan, Shanh-Dea
Bevenue, Donald
Bible, Sharalee
Bigpond, Gibson
Bigpond, Negiel
Blankenship, Edmond
Bowen, Carey
Brown, Felicia
Brown, Regina
Brown, Roy
Buck, Freda
Bunner, Jared
Bunner, Kenneth
Burgess, Helen
Buster Melanie
Culley, Angela
Culley, Darrin
Cummings, Anna
Cummings, Connie
DeVore, Gina
Dodson, Rachel
Earls, Brandy
Factor, Fusyahega
Frair, Joseph
Freeman, Betty
Gambler Quinn
Gambler Roxanne
Ganus Roberta
Golightly Kenneth
Gonseth Eric
Goodvoice Kenneth
Goodvoice Timothy
Gordon, Kacy
Goudeau Freddie
Grimes, Sonja
Guthrie Jr., Gary
Hagy Kathy
Hale Bernice
Hale, James
Haney, Roberta
Harjo, Christopher C.
Harjo, Erika
Harjo, Francis
Harjo, Helen
Harjo, Joshua
Harjo Jr. Albert
Harjo, Norman Alex
Harjo, Ryan
Harjo, Vicki
Harkness, Timothy
Harley, Cindy
Harley Jason
Harley Jessica
Harley, Speedy
Harley Sr. Richard
Harley, Whitney
Harmon, Craig
Harmon, Kelly
Harris, Christine
Harrison, Mandy
Harrison, Roberta
Harvey, Kathryn
Harvey, Michelle
Hiett, Julie
Hill Chapman
Hodge, Jesse
Holata, Jamie
Hollier, Nicole
Holman, Maggie
Holmgren, Daniel
Hornback, Hanna
Horton, Lewis
Huddart, Betty
Ingram, Elizabeth
Ingram Virginia
Jack, Kevin
Jackson Janet
Jackson Scott
Jacobs Russell
Jesse Jimmie
Johnson Edward
Johnson Irma
Johnson Jr., Cy
Jones Jr. Walter
Jones, Ed
Jones, Jackie
Jones, Jammel
Jones, Jennifer
Jones, Lacy
Joshua, Annie
Kaler, Donna
Kelly, Charles
Kelly, Christopher
Kerby, Norris
Kiehl, Beverly
Killingsworth, Angela
King, Teresa
Lamberston, Daniel
Landreth Jr., Michael
Lane, Barbara
Langston, Lahoma
Langston, Phillip D.
Langston, Richard A.
Langston, Richard D.
Larkin Jr., Johnnie
Larney, Danny
Ledger, Sharon
Ledger, Tina
Leitka, Christopher
Leitka, Jenna
Lemmons, Jeri
Lewis, Gerald
Lewis, Clifford
Lewis, Debra
Lietka, Christoper
Litsey, William
Littlejohn, Raeann
Lively, Brenda
Looney, Mattie
Lowe, Edward
Lowe, Monica
Mackey, Karen
Madlom, Nancy
Mahan, Debra
Maples, Janet
Marshall, Eugenia
Marshall, Michael
McCargo, Renatee'
McCurdy, Adrienne
McIntosh, Stanley
McKinney, Jason
McMillon, Loren
McNac, Jenna
McNac, Justina
Melson III, William
Miller Jr., David
Monahwee, Michael
Monahwee, Solomon
Monahwee, Yommie
Moncrief, Starlina
Mondragon, Destiny
Moore, Glenn March
Moore, Michael
Morgan, Buddy
Morgan, David
Morgan, Linda
Morgan, Raymond
Morgan, Richard
Morgan, Russell
Munds, Nancy
Murphy, Sondra
Myers, David
Nail, Jimmy
Najera, Cheryl
Neal, Dorothy
Neal, Richard
Nye, Antonio
Obney, Tammy
Osborne, Tonya
Owens, Arnetta
Payne, Aundy
Pendersgrass, Carol
Pigeon, Angeles
Polk Jr., Mack
Pope, Joseph
Pope, Vivian
Postoak, Erick
Powell, Jerry
Powell, Lisa
Price, Michael
Proctor, Leah
Pruitt, Lesa
Quinton, Jerry
Rabbit, Tammy
Raefield, Michael
Randall, Mickey
Rash, Ramona
Reddick, Rita
Redwine, Marie
Reeves, Pamela
Remis, Tiffany
Riley, Adamiral
Robertson, Bobbie
Robison, Leigh
Ross, Wendell
Rozell, Stephanie
Russell, Bernon
Sanders, Polly
Sanders, Stacey
Schooley, Randall
Scott, Roberta
Sevier, Charles
Simmers, Wendy
Sinor, Amy
Skinner, Jimmy
Sloan, David
Smith, Bobbi
Smith, Betty
Smith, Della
Smith, Floyd
Smith, Gerald
Smith, Tina
Snyder-Osmun, Pamela
Soap Jr., LeeRoy
Spencer, Michael
Spottedbird, Rita
Starr Jr. Amos
Starr, Erick
Stowe, Connie
Sugar Sr., Christopher
Sugar, Michael
Sumka, Doris
Sutton, Thelma
Talley, Wilma
Tarkington, Mary
Tarpalechee, Eddy
Tate, Lawanda
Taylor, Bonita
Taylor, Christina
Taylor, Elizabeth
Taylor, Geneva
Taylor, Joyce
Taylor, Mark
Taylor, Mary
Taylor, Tony
Tecumseh, Cetto-Mekko
Tecumseh, Jeremy
Tecumseh, Mulsie
Thames, Barbara
Thompson, Gerald
Thompson, Maxine
Tiger, Georgina
Tiger, Kenneth
Tiger, Lisa
Tiger, Ted
Todd, Wanda
Toombs Jr., Louis
Treesh, Treva
Tulsa, John
Tyler, Rosie
Vanstraten, Sally
Vaughn, Janna
Wadsworth, Jimmie
Waquie, Jason
Washington, Donald
Washington, Donna
Washington, Hyatt
Washington, Thomas
Watson, Ashley
Watson, Patricia
Watters, Betty
Wesley, Marzetta
White, Andrew
White, Ava
White, Diane
Whitecloud, James
Willett, Lizzie
Williamson, Lena
Wilson, Gary
Winn, Anniel
Wright, James
Wright, Jerri
Wright, Robert
Wright, Thomas
Yahola, Annie
Zeigler, LaDonna

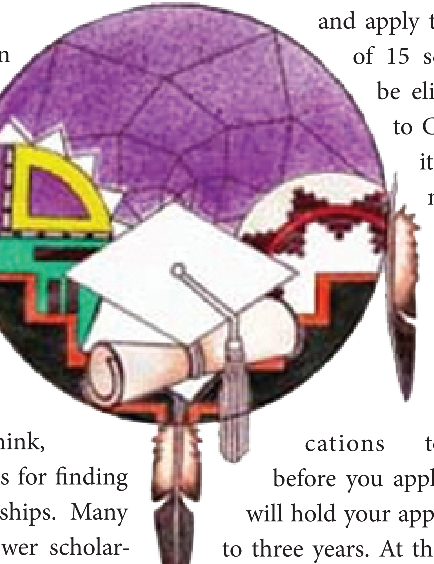
CREEK NATION Casino MUSCOGEE
OKTOBERFEST
OCTOBER 17th
SLOT TOURNAMENT
5:30 PM, $20 entry fee
$2,500 in prizes
$10 MATCH PLAY
& HOT SEAT PRIZES
Noon to 5:00 PM
BINGO SESSION
Mini games pay $100. Super Jackpot, Treasure Hunt, and Deal on Wheels pay $500. $15 pack pays $750
OKTOBERFEST SPECIAL
$1.50 Beer Special
$1.00 Hot Dogs
OCTOBER 31st
HALLOWEEN
COSTUME CONTEST 7:00 PM
1ST PLACE...$500, 2ND PLACE...$250,
3RD PLACE...$125, 4TH PLACE...$75,
5TH PLACE...$50
BINGO TRICK OR TREAT
FREE REGULAR SESSION PAPER PACK FOR VIP MEMBERS.
MINI GAMES PAY DOUBLE!
$10 PACKS
ODD PAYS $250.
EVEN PAYS $750.
CREEK NATION Casino MUSCOGEE
3420 W. Peak Boulevard Muskogee, OK 74401 918.683.1825 www.creeknationcasino.net

How to find and win scholarships

• Part I: resources available to Native students

by Dean Chavers, Ph. D.
Catching the Dream

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M., — Catching the Dream, formerly known as the Native American Scholarship Fund, makes grants to Native college students and works to improve Indian schools. Since 1986, CTD has made scholarship awards to 920 students and has produced 596 graduates.



Our retention rate is 83 percent, a very high rate compared to the 82 percent dropout rate that prevails nationwide with Native students. Contrary to what students often think, CTD rewards students for finding and winning scholarships. Many students think the fewer scholarships they find and win, the more we will like it. The opposite is true. The more scholarships you find and win, the more we like it, and the more money we will give you. Our ultimate goal is to have you being able to go to college with no loans and have your expenses totally covered.

Many students think they cannot afford to go to Stanford or Harvard. The total cost for a year at the Ivy League colleges is now $42,000. But really solid, hardworking, dedicated, serious students can win enough money in scholarships to be able to attend Stanford or Harvard. The secret is scholarships.

We require students to apply to all other sources of funds before they apply to CTD. This includes financial aid, college work study, Perkins and Stafford loans, tribal scholarships, and other scholarships. We want students to be able to go to Stanford Medical School, not have to take out any loans, and still be able to give their momma money.

We have students doing this now. You can do it too, if you are willing to do just a little work. One of our students is at Northern Arizona University. He did a thorough scholarship search and won 18 scholarships that pay him $26,000 a year. His total college cost is $12,000, so he has $14,000 left over. That is totally legitimate, and something we encourage.

If you saw a statement about CTD or NASF on any web site or directory listing that says you must find and apply to a minimum of 15 scholarships to be eligible to apply to CTD, disregard it. The minimum is listed below. If you do not do a thorough scholarship search and make applications to the others before you apply to CTD, we will hold your application for up to three years. At the end of three years, if you have still not completed the process, we will destroy your records. At any time during the three years that you complete the process, notify us, give us documentation of the places you have applied, and we will then process your application.

The maximum number of scholarships a student in the U. S. has won, apparently, was 200. Marianne Ragins, a Black girl in Macon, Georgia, in 1991 found 200 scholarships, applied to all 200, and won all 200. The total amount of money she won was $315,000, which was much more than she needed to attend any U. S. college. Her average amount per scholarship was $1,575, which is about what you will find. It was such a feat that Parade magazine did a two-page spread on her.

It helped that she had a 4.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale, and that she worked at a fast food restaurant 25 hours a week. Her father was deceased, and her mother was supporting the two of them on the meager salary of a seamstress. And it helped that she wanted to go to medical school.

Students should Google Marianne to learn what is on her website, and to learn the names of the three books she has had published since she finished college. If your library does not have these three books, request the librarian to order at least one of them. Marianne now spends all her time working with students on finding and winning scholarships.

Fastweb, the most comprehensive scholarship site, has over 1,300,000 scholarships in its database. We urge students to find all the scholarships they are eligible for, and apply to them. Scholarships are not all equal. The most popular fields for scholarships are engineering, and the least popular fields are performing arts.

FINDING SCHOLARSHIPS

There are four ways to find scholarships: (1) on the Internet, (2) using scholarship directories, (3) from your university, and (4) in your community. Motivated students will use all four methods.

THE INTERNET: The best and most comprehensive Web site is www.fastweb.com. Another excellent comprehensive site is www.scholarships.com. In addition to these two, there are hundreds of other sites. Some list one scholarship, and others list many. A student can always Google something like "Scholarships for Native Americans," or "Scholarships for Engineering," and go through the many sites that will appear.

But this method is counterproductive, highly inefficient, and frustrating. It is much better to use a comprehensive site. And contrary to conventional thinking, Native students should not look only for Native scholarships. The reason is simple; there are fewer than 200 Native scholarships in the Fastweb database, and only seven of them have real money. Native scholarships represent less than one-tenth of one percent of all scholarships.

The seven large ones, in order of money given away each year, are

1. Gates Millennium ($2 million)
2. American Indian College Fund ($1 million)
3. American Indian Science and Engineering Society ($500,000)
4.Catching the Dream ($400,000)
5. American Indian Education Foundation ($300,000)
6. National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution ($100,000)
7. Association on American Indian Affairs ($40,000).

After these seven, the amounts are very small. You should apply to all scholarships, including the small Indian scholarships that pay $250 a year. In four years, that $250 is $1,000, not a bad payoff for half an hour of work.

The key to success in using the Internet is to have an adequate list of keywords. In addition to using Native American, American Indian, Indian, female/male, woman, and minority, students should use these eight master words to help them come up with a list of keywords. The eight master words are:

1. Honors
2. Awards
3. Clubs
4. Elected positions
5. Appointed positions
6. Work experience
7. Hobbies
8. Your major.

Students should send us their list of keywords before they run Fastweb so we can tell them whether or not we think it is adequate. It will also help greatly if the student sends us a resume.

These honors, awards, etc., apply at school, in your community, and at church. Elected positions are such things as class secretary, class senator, and student body president. Appointed positions are such things as editor of the yearbook, baseball team manager, etc. If you are not in any clubs now, join something. What you do now will follow you for the next 50 years. I am 66 years old, and I am still sending out resumes.

Your major will not be just one word or phrase, either. For instance, if your major were nursing, you would use the following keywords, and perhaps others: nursing, registered nurse, nursing education, pediatric nursing, geriatric nursing, oncology nursing, surgical nursing, health care, medical care, health administration, medical administration, public health, and public health nursing.

If your major is business, you would use economics, finance, sales, marketing, business management, business administration, business leadership, hotel and restaurant management, accounting, retailing, and banking.

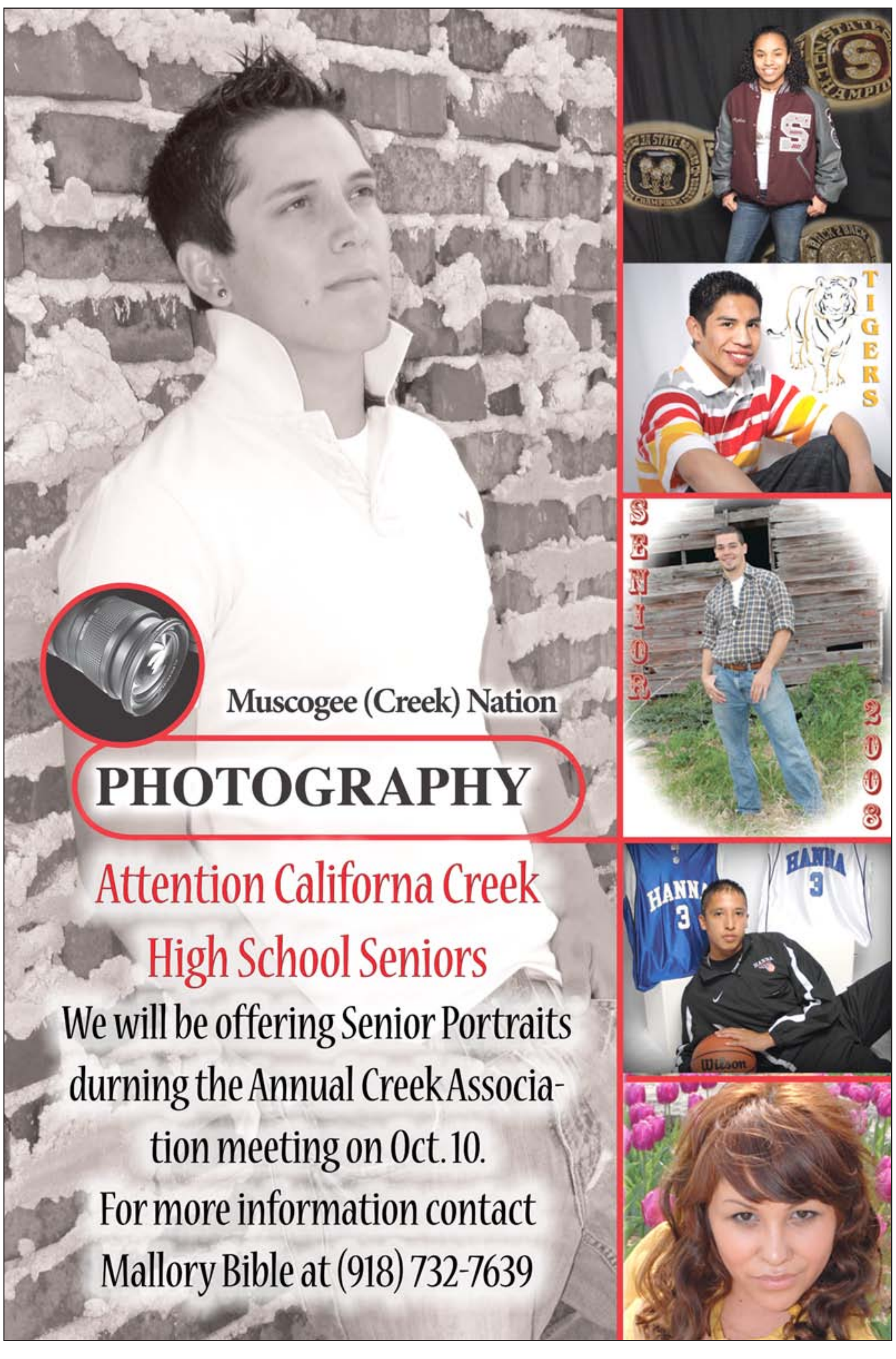
Once you run Fastweb, it will give you between 120 and 150 sources. Unfortunately, it is a keyword search only. There is no connection between the keywords, so students have to go through the list manually to determine which scholarships they are really eligible for. A nursing major in New Mexico, may pull up a nursing scholarship for the State of Idaho. You will have to rule that one out, however, since you do not live in Idaho. You may also pull up a nursing scholarship for Iowa State University, and you will have to rule that one out unless you plan to attend Iowa State.

What you will be left with is 30% to 40% of the 120 to 150 you started with. THIS IS YOUR POT OF GOLD! These 30 to 60 scholarships are the ones you are going to target to win the money you need for college. You should add to the ones you find on Fastweb by using the other three ways of finding them.

SCHOLARSHIP DIRECTORIES: Even though scholarship directories are becoming outmoded by the advent of the Internet, they are still valuable. You will find some scholarships in them that are not on the Internet. Your high school library should have a good set of them; if it does not, you can ask the librarian to buy a set, which should cost under $300. I will send your librarian or anyone else a list of recommended scholarship directories at the drop of a hat.

Use the index in the back of the book to find the scholarships you want. Don't start at the front of the book and leaf through; this will take too long. Look up the same keywords you used on Fastweb to help you find the scholarships in the directories.

TO BE CONTINUED



Muscogee (Creek) Nation
PHOTOGRAPHY
Attention Californa Creek High School Seniors
We will be offering Senior Portraits durning the Annual Creek Association meeting on Oct. 10.
For more information contact Mallory Bible at (918) 732-7639

Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Assistance Program

Receipt DO'S and DON'TS

DO:

- Turn in receipts within 90 days of the check issuance date.
- Turn in ALL ORIGINAL receipts.
- Turn in receipts that total the amount of your check.
- Legibly print parents name, child's name and your phone number on the back of each receipt.
- Make sure all receipts are dated AFTER the check issuance date.
- Make sure all receipts have a date printed on them.

DON'T:

- Turn in receipts late.
- Cut the date off of the receipts.
- Write or mark on the front of the receipts.
- Turn in only partial receipts.
- Combine clothing purchases on the same receipts that you purchase other items on. Clothing items should be all that is on the receipts.
- Send cash, check, money orders or coins, etc. in with your receipts.

For questions or additional information, contact:
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
School Clothing Program
918-756-2024 or 800-482-1979

Mvskoke Country
What is Mvskoke Food?
LIVING - B3

Creeks receive 40 under 40 honors SPOTLIGHT- B5

FEATURES

Annual Pink Party set for October 21

• Okmulgee Indian Health Center prepares for event

MNN/*Starla Bush*

Pictured above is original allottee Martha Berryhill at the 2008 Pink Party for breast caner awareness. This year's event will feature a keynote address from Ms. Alisa Gilbert, a breast cancer survivor from the Tewa Tribe.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

OKMULGEE – The Okmulgee Indian Health Center is preparing for the 2009 "Pink Party," breast cancer awareness event. The seventh annual Pink Party will be held Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2009 from 1-4 p.m., at Covelle Hall on the OSU Institute of Technology (OSU-Okmulgee) campus.

The keynote speaker will be Ms. Alisa Gilbert, who is a member of the Tewa Tribe and a breast cancer survivor. The Pink Party is open to everyone and in addition to guest speakers, will include information booths, refreshments and door prizes. Registration for the Pink Party will be on-site only and begins at 12 p.m.

The goal of the Pink Party is to heighten awareness, early detection and treatment of breast cancer and support to breast cancer survivors. Breast cancer survivors will have a special registration area. For information about the Pink Party, call the Okmulgee Indian Health Center at (918) 758-1926.

OIHC/*Deborah Isham*

NIMI settles in new location

• Perryman Ranch opens historic doors to NIMI

MNN/Ruth Bible

Pictured above: Jenks Chamber of Commerce and city officials gather around National Indian Monument and Institute Founder Monetta Trepp as she slices through the ribbon at the blessing ceremony at historic Perryman Ranch, now home to the organization.

by Jason Salsman
MNN Feature Writer

JENKS — Many things have called the Perryman Ranch "home" over the years, including Tulsa's first post office. Now, the historic site that was once a stop on the Pony Express, is welcoming its newest tenants.

The National Indian Monument and Institute has moved it's headquarters from Tulsa to the cozy confines of the ranch, and marked the special occasion by hosting Oklahoma state and tribal officials, regional leaders and community partners at a ceremonial blessing and ribbon cutting held September 22, 2009.

The ranch, located just off Elwood Ave., in Jenks, provides a remarkable setting and one can't help but be enveloped with over 100 years of culture when gracing the doors. It was established before Oklahoma statehood and is the original Creek allotment of Mose Perryman. The occasion was special for all in attendance, perhaps most for NIMI founder, Monetta Trepp, who is the granddaughter of Mose Perryman's widow, Lulu Perryman. Trepp spoke about the move, and was flooded with feelings of nostalgia.

"We are just so pleased to have NIMI out here at the ranch," said Trepp. "I spent my summers out here as a little girl."

For NIMI, the move is the next step in its advancement to honor, preserve, sustain and celebrate American Indian culture. Since it's founding in 1990, NIMI has actively created programs throughout the year to educate and inform the public. The institute has also partnered with the community to organize the Tulsa Indian Art Market each year. The day's convergence of history and culture was evident from the onset. One step into the celebrated bunkhouse was met with the smell of burning cedar and a century's worth of cultural relics adorning the walls.

Perhaps Monetta's son and NIMI Board President Robert Trepp said it best.

"It's just so good to have NIMI on Native land," Trepp stated.

Three make INPRO's Native 40 Under 40

Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

TULSA — The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development (NCAIED) recently moved the Indian Progress in Business Event (INPRO), historically held in the southwest region of the U.S., to the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in Tulsa, Okla., for the 34th annual event at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Sept. 16-18, 2009.

Along with bringing some of the most business-savvy speakers from around the globe to the heart of Indian Country to Oklahoma, organizers of INPRO 2009 sought to build an event around NCAIED's own 40th anniversary by recognizing the 'Native 40 Under 40.'

SEE ACHIEVERS - B5

40 UNDER 40

> *"The intention of bringing INPRO and FALA together is to bring Indian leaders together and spur economic and business development for Indian Country,"*
>
> **- Margo Proctor**
> *Chairwoman of National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development*

Creek Nation Radio Program 'Creek Beat' moving to net

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

OKMULGEE—Beginning Wednesday, October 7, 2009 the Creek Nation Radio Program, 'Creek Beat' will move its broadcast. The 30-minute weekly news program will no longer be heard on Okmulgee's local KOKL AM 1240 radio station, however, production will continue.

The program will now be heard on the Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative Web site at www.msvkokefood.org and scroll down to the sites 'streaming radio' link to listen to the Creek Nation Radio Program each Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m. (CST), or anytime.

CREEK BEAT

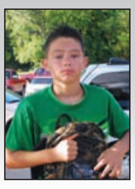
The Creek Nation Radio Program may also be heard on the official Muscogee (Creek) Nation Web site at www.themuscogeecreeknation.com by clicking the 'Creek Beat' logo.

Past shows will also be available on both web sites. For more information on publicizing tribal community events in your area, please contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department at (918) 732 - 7635.

CULTURE B2
Stainability steps forward with museum on the rise

LIVING B3
And Still the Waters Run: *Sehoy of the Wind Clan*

LIFESTYLES B4
Jacob Lee Cantrell



SPOTLIGHT B5
Rifle competition shooter sets sights on major titles

OBITUARIES B6
David Bunner

ADVERTISEMENT B8
Veterans' Day Celebration Tuesday Nov.10

MUSEUMUPDATES

Stainability steps forward with museum on the rise

Media Release
American Indian Cultural Center & Museum

OKLAHOMA CITY — Sept. 17, 2009 marked another milestone for the American Indian Cultural Center & Museum (AICCM) and the State of Oklahoma. The Native American Cultural and Educational Authority (NACEA), the state agency developing the American Indian Cultural Center & Museum, was notified of receiving the first portion of a $1 million grant from the State Energy Program American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The funding will be used by the NACEA to improve energy efficiency, reduce energy consumption/cost and lower greenhouse emissions in the American Indian Cultural Center & Museum project. These activities support the NACEA's approach to building a credible state-of-the-art cultural center and museum while remaining good stewards to mother earth.

"For thousands of years Native peoples have considered the earth as an integral part of man's ecosystem. When native communities face cultural, economic or philosophical choices they are often filtered through a lens that considers how that decision will impact the next seven generations," Executive Director of the Native American Cultural and Educational Authority Gena Timberman said.

"The NACEA and AICCM are proud to embrace the latest technologies and museum approaches to sustain cultural traditions as well as preserve stewardship for the environment." Reducing the environmental imprint will be executed by reducing equipment maintenance costs, improving efficiency and life expectancy of mechanical components and improving the ability to control temperature and humidification requirements. These ambitions will be accomplished with ice storage cooling technologies, glass treatments that bolster energy efficiency and natural gas powered generators.

MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Pictured above is the AICCM at the ground-breaking ceremony held in November 2005. As the museum nears completion, the completed structure will ensure energy efficiency and a culturally-based design that will mark Oklahoma's Native history.

The American Indian Cultural Center & Museum facility will utilize a central plant concept to employ a system of controls which will deliver the stringent temperatures and humidification requirements in the museum. The central plant delivery system is more efficient than a multitude of package units to service the 125,000 square feet of the facility's multiple building complexes.

During the next several months 1,636 tons of steel will be erected to support the museum gallery buildings and children's discovery center. When the 125,000 square foot museum is complete it will reveal many unique architectural spaces that are closely linked to cultural values and traditions.

"Our project philosophy is rooted in ancient traditions and approaches while blending modern design sensibility. We remain mindful of the impact our actions leave on mother earth. We are excited to move the project closer to completion as we develop a cultural center and museum that will attract visitors from around the world, nation, region and state," Timberman said.

'The Fearless Honkah Hunters' to premiere Oct. 16-17 at Tulsa PAC

Media Release
Mahenwahdose

TULSA — The American Indian Theatre Company is announcing the Oct. 16, 2009 premiere of the scary comedy "The Fearless Honkah Hunters," performed by Mahenwahdose Productions, an original, written by Native American's Wilburn K. Hill and Winona Henderson.

Hill, a Muscogee (Creek) citizen, who was recognized in March 2009 by the Tulsa City/County Library's American Indian Resource Center as one of Oklahoma's outstanding Native American playwrights, will be joined in this endeavor by Cherokee Winona Henderson, who has previously served as Editor of many of Hill's previous plays.

The acting ensemble of Mahenwahdose will once again fill the cast of the play, with Hill, seasoned actors Jehnean Washington, Hill's stage partner for the past nine years and a noted music composer, and Mike Buckendorf, who will be starting his fourth year with the group.

Joining the group for the first time will be Arianna Fink, actress from New York City, who has toured with "Phantom of the Opera," and appeared in off-Broadway performances such as Ado Annie in "Oklahoma" and Miss Adelaide in "Guys and Dolls." She also danced with the New Jersey Ballet and Opus Dance Company of Harlem.

The play, which takes place during the season of the big chestnut, Otowosko Thlocko (October), is about an unlikely group of Native American ghost hunters, known as The Fearless HONKAH Hunters (TFHH), led by a brother and sister team, John and Rachel Elkhair, played by Hill and Washington. Something mysterious is happening in Indian country, and it will take this crack team of ghost hunters to prove or debunk the haunting of an Inn and Resort in Southeastern Oklahoma that is said to have ghostly occurrences.

Like many of Hill's plays, it is filled with the comedic antics his personality and professional training provides, as well as the language, history, music and folklore of the beautiful Native culture he so proudly represents in his writing and stage performances.

The play is being funded by the American Indian Theatre Company, The Oklahoma Arts Council, National Indian Monument Institution, Tulsa Indian Art Festival, Tulsa Performing Arts Trust, and Prescor, Inc.

The play will open at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center at 110 East 2nd Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma on Friday, Oct. 16 at 8 p.m., with a Matinee at 2 p.m., and an evening performance at 8 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 17, 2009. Join the American Indian Theatre Company, Will Hill and Mahenwahdose on October 16 and 17 for a terrifyingly funny time!

Tickets are now on sale at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center ticket office which may be reached by phone at (918) 596-7111 or toll-free at 1-800-364-7111.

The Gathering of
California's Muscogee (Creek) Nation Association

Please Spread the News!!

All are Welcome!!

The location of this event is:
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Chapel
Huntington Park West Stake Center
3115 S. Vermont Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90007

Saturday, October 10, 2009
Noon - 5 p.m.

Muscogee Creek Nation Guest List includes:
Chief of Staff Mike Flud ~ Executive Director Claude Sumner ~ Human Development Louis Hicks
Human Development Administrative Assistant Courtney Josie standing in for Chanenna Davis of Higher Education
Language Preservation Manager Kathleen Coachman ~ Language Specialist Chumona Deere
Community Resource Teacher Daria Hicks ~ Community Services Director Dr. Danette McIntosh
Social Services Manager Julie Ziriax ~ Citizenship Manager Laura Wesley ~ Enrollment Specialist I Tracy Wade
Citizenship Board Members Darlene Taryole and Liz Yahola ~ Muscogee Nation News Team and Photographers

Update your Citizenship card by adding your picture!
Sign up for Muscogee Nation Newspaper and we will be taking
a limited number of appointments for Senior Portraits

Booking 10 appointments see our ad on page A8

This is your opportunity to meet other Creeks in California and get information about Muscogee (Creek) Nation services that are available to you and your family.

Come out and learn about the Constitutional Amendments on the ballot.

THIS IS AN ELECTION YEAR.
We invite any and all National Council Representatives to come out and join us.
All National Council candidates are invited to give a presentation.
THIS IS NOT A DEBATE FORUM.

This is a pot luck event so please bring your favorite dish to share!

For more information contact: Eli Grayson @ (760)534-1632 or eligrayson@hotmail.com

Mvskoke Country

What is Mvskoke Food?

by James Treat

Several months ago, a reader asked if I had run across any traditional Mvskoke recipes.

That's a slippery word, traditional, pointing back in time toward the dim corners of memory, like a flickering flashlight aimed into a very deep cave.

How far do you have to go? How old is traditional? These are tough questions in a modern world, where things are always changing, people more interested in the future than the past.

Many of us have tasted safke, eaten tafvmpuce at a wild onion dinner, or enjoyed pvrko-afke even if they're made with Welch's grape juice. And a few Mvskokes remember how to prepare these dishes.

Still, it's worth asking: What is Mvskoke food?

* * *

I found a couple of Mvskoke cookbooks on my shelves, and several more in a search of online bookstores.

The earliest is Hokti's Recipe Book of Creek Indian Foods, written by Beulah Simms and illustrated by Ben Chaney, both Mvskokes. Chaney printed the book in his garage and published it in 1970; today, after an eclectic career in art, education, and business, he is manager of transportation planning for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Hokti, you may know, is the Mvskoke word for woman. In this case, it refers to the author's mother, who gave Simms these recipes. She was typical of the loving Mvskoke matriarchs who are "remembered with much appreciation by all those who have feasted at church gatherings, stomp dances, family get-togethers, or just plain daily living."

Simms dedicated this book to the next generation of Mvskokes, hoping to "inspire a revival of interest in the old methods of preparing food." Preserved here are the ingredients, utensils, and preparations used by Mvskoke cooks for generations, before the advent of "modern kitchen conveniences."

Practicing "the old Creek Indian ways of cookery" involves handmade implements fashioned from wood and other natural materials. Hokti's recipes are prefaced by an explanation of several such utensils.

Many of the twenty recipes collected here include corn, the native American staple that has become one of the most vital foods in the world. As Simms points out, the survival of Green Corn and other observances rooted in agriculture demonstrates the importance of both crop and ceremony in Mvskoke life.

Other ingredients listed in these recipes may be harder to find at your local grocer: sassafras root bark, wood ash lye, possum grapes, and squirrel, for example. You'll probably have better luck if you know your way around "nature's super market," as Simms terms it.

Some of these recipes call for flour, eggs, pork, or beef—foods that have become common, if not necessarily healthy, elements of the modern diet. Wheat, chickens, pigs, and cattle are not native to Mvskoke country; they were domesticated in the Eastern Hemisphere and transplanted to the Americas during the past half-millennium.

So Hokti's Recipe Book documents Mvskoke traditions during a particular period of our history, after the onset of colonial trade but before we became hooked on grocery stores and drive-thrus.

What is Mvskoke food? There are no simple answers in a complex, modern world. But it's worth reflecting on this question because, as the saying goes, you are what you eat.

* * *

People around the globe are increasingly concerned about the modern food system and its effect on their health. This is the personal side of "food sovereignty," a phrase we'll be hearing a lot more in the future.

Fortunately, there are many in Mvskoke country who are already working to help us eat—and feel—better.

The Food Distribution Program of the Community Services Division posts monthly recipes on the MCN website. And they have partnered with the OSU Extension Center to offer an eight-week course in nutrition education, the Fresh Start Program.

The Division of Health manages the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition Program, which just announced a major revision of their food package to include fresh produce and whole-grain products. The Diabetes Prevention and Management Program recently sponsored the third annual MCN Diabetes Awareness Summit.

The Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative in downtown Okmulgee maintains a website featuring recipes along with lots of other useful information about Mvskoke foods.

It's never too late to start eating right, for your own sake and for the sake of those who share your table. It takes healthy citizens to make a healthy nation.

* * *

You can find more information about Mvskoke country, including an archive of previous columns, at http://mvskokecountry.wordpress.com/

I welcome your comments on anything I've written, as well as your suggestions for things I should be writing about. You can reach me by email at treaty@illinois.edu

Public review and comment period

• MCN Integrated Resource Management Plan

MCN/*Josh Castleman*

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Integrated Resource Management Plan will be hosting a public review and comment period to all tribal members from October through November.

Media Release
Integrated Resources Management Plan

OKMULGEE — The public review and comment period is open to all enrolled tribal members and will run from October 2009 to November 2009. A hard copy of the 349 page IRMP will be available in the IRMP office, which is located in the Realty/Trust Services Department.

In addition to this announcement, a letter will be sent to each chartered Muscogee (Creek) community announcing the opening of the public review and comment period. Those communities who show an interest will be sent an IRMP public review and comment packet, which will allow community members to view the IRMP and leave comments that will aid in the development of the IRMP.

Once completed, the IRMP will aid tribal leaders in making informed decisions on how to manage the tribe's natural resources in a sustainable manner. The goal of the IRMP is to promote sustainable economic development while ensuring the preservation of the tribe's natural resources.

Comments may be submitted in person, by mail, fax or e-mail. However, they must be made or postmarked by November 2009. Tribal members who would like to request a CD ROM version of the IRMP may do so by contacting the IRMP Project Coordinator, Joshua Castleman.

Joshua D. Castleman,
IRMP Project Coordinator
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447
Office: (918) 732-7706
Fax: (918) 732-5802
Cell: (918) 237-8665
E-mail: jcastleman@
muscogeenation-nsn.gov

And Still the Waters Run:

Sehoy of the Wind Clan

Photos courtesy of George Windes

Pictured above are Josephine Howell Freeman, Red Eagle's grand-daughter standing proudly beside her oldest son, J.L. "Roy" Freeman

by George Windes
CMCA Historian

YORBA LINDA, Cali., — This month I tell the story of Sehoy, a daughter of Sehoy and a granddaughter of Sehoy.

In fact, in the 'mists' of time, there may have been yet another mysterious woman named Sehoy. I located a brief hypothesis regarding a woman said to have founded the Clan of the 'Wind." She's called a warring Chieftainess (as in Deaconess), a Muscogee Queen named Sehoy, born 1670 (?). Her three descendants are called Princesses of the Wind, acknowledging a special status. Their births/marriages are noted as follows:

Sehoy 1

Born circa 1700 in Tuskegee on the Coosa River. Sehoy I married twice, first in 1720 to Captain Marchard who some say died two years later, a victim of a mutiny from the

French soldiers he commanded. Others say that he simply returned to the French West Indies. There was one child born of this marriage, Sehoy II. Sehoy I also married Red Shoes, a Coosada headman. He died 1748. Two children were born of the union, Red

Shoes II, a Chief of the Coosada, and a daughter Hacho, who married David Frances. Frances was a trader and silversmith who lived at Autauga town.

Sehoy II

Born 1721-22. She would have three marriages. The first was about 1738, to Malcolm McPherson. They had a daughter Elizabeth, who died at a young age. The second one

was to Lachlin McGillivray. They married in 1745. There were three children, Sophia, born 1747, Alexander, born 1750 (who became the Emperor of the Creek Nation), and Jeannett, born 1755. Sehoy's third marriage was to a Tuckabatchee chief, whose name

may have been Sumac.They were married circa 1757 and had one daughter, Sehoy III, she became the mother of William Weatherford (Red Eagle).

Sehoy III

Born circa 1759 at Tuskegee (also spelled Taskigi), located in Alabama near old Fort Toulouse. Sehoy III married three times, the first husband was William Dixon Moniac.

They had a daughter Hannah who married Josiah Frances, the 'Prophet' of Fort Mims.

Her second husband was John Tate. They married in 1778, but he died two years later.

There was one son, David Tate, who married Randon, Coleman and Dyer daughters.

Sehoy III then married a Scotch Indian trader, Charles Weatherford (who had a Native grandmother, Mary Half-blood). Their marriage produced five children, William (Red Eagle), John, Elizabeth, Rosannah & Washington. All of their marriages would link important Creek families. Red Eagle married Mary Stiggins, daughter of Haw, niece of the Great Sun of the Natchez tribe. The Natchez had been taken in and adopted by various Native tribes after nearly being destroyed by the French. A surviving chief, Chinnabee, had built the town of Natche right in the midst of the Creek Confederacy. Today the Natchez obtain their headrights through citizenship in our own Muscogee Creek Nation.

Sehoy III died circa 1812. She is buried beside her two sons on David Tate's brickyard plantation near Little River, Ala. Baldwin County has turned two acres into a memorial park with a stone cairn on each of the graves of Red Eagle & Sehoy III. Many visitors come, writers of Native history and descendants of the famed warrior. Often children of the Poarch Creek Indian Tribe, with headquarters 25 miles away, come in buses (as do other school children from nearby towns). There always seems to be little gifts; notes, flowers, a trinket from a child's pocket, laid atop the pretty stone monuments.

Sehoy's name is yet found in our ancestral lands. An amphitheater at the University of Southern Alabama at Hattiesburg is named for her. A popular play has been produced and presented on her life. A large housing sub-division near Bay Minette in Baldwin County is named Sehoy Estates. Her pretty name is occasionally used by descendants.

In 2007, my niece Terese gave birth to a beautiful little girl and named her Mia Sehoy.

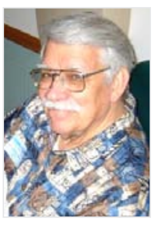
The Sehoy's were extremely important to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for nearly 100 years. Their marriages and offspring would provide much leadership (chiefs) and warriors.

They were called beloved women & held much power in the matriarchal clan structure

of our Nation. Their maternal uncles undoubtedly gave input to their decisions also, especially in their early youth, the ancient Wind clan approach to doing things.

I think of Creek grave houses occasionally. I've been told that they were usually rebuilt at least twice, before being allowed to crumble, a reminder to a few generations, of our loved ones who have become dust. Thanks for visiting my dear grandmothers with me.

Windes has been an active member of the California Muscogee Creek Association for nearly a decade and is currently serving on the Board as historian. He may be reached at: georgewindes@gmail.com.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Kelsey Nicole Lee

CLAREMORE — Kelsey Nicole Lee is a member of the Claremore Zebra Dance Team. She recently attended the Universal Dance Association Camp held at Tulsa University in June. She won the Universal Dance Association All-American Award by performing a two-part routine.

During tryouts of the 50 girls who participated, she was one of the 12 selected. Lee will have the opportunity to travel and perform in Frascati, Italy later this year in December.

She is a senior at Claremore High School.

Her parents are Scott and Jessica Lee.

She has three siblings; Joshua, Michaela and Jacob.

Grandparents are Pat Gibson, Judy and Floyd Gordon, Jill and Ken Gibson and Catherine Evans.

BIRTHS

Justin Thomas "J.T." Binning

OKMULGEE — Justin Thomas Binning was born July 15, 2009.

He weighed 7 pounds 5 ounces.

He is the son of Justin and Lila Binning.

He has three siblings, Jesse Bear, Broklyn and Kami Binning.

Grandparents are Jim and Lillian Thomas, Pat and Belienda Garrett and Terry and Fred White.

BIRTHDAYS

Katie and Ryan "Katcv" Alexander

TULSA — Katie and Ryan "Katcv" Alexander celebrated their second and third birthdays at Chuck E. Cheese Pizza on June 20, 2009 with a "Thomas the Tank Engine" cake.

Parents are Tricia Fields and Tony Alexander.

They have two siblings, Serena and Jacob Todd.

Grandparents are Cheri Haney and Ira "Poncho" Fields,Jr. and Pastor Jimmy and Lorena Alexander.

Great grandparents are Pauline Haney and Marie Fields and the late Pastor Bill and Mary Alexander

They are or the Tiger Clan and belong to Polecat (Kellyville) Ceremonial Ground.

Both attend New Joy Indian Baptist Church.

Brighton Cantrell

HENRYETTA — Brighton Cantrell celebrated his sixth birthday on Sept. 23, 2009. He was joined by friends and family at Chuck E. Cheese for food and fun.

He is the son of Angel and Jared Ellis.

He has two siblings, Jacob and Avalynn.

Grandparents are Timothy Cantrell and Lesa Ackerman and Terri Stiver.

Jacob Cantrell

HENRYETTA — Jacob Cantrell celebrated his 11th birthday on Sept. 16, 2009. His family and friends enjoyed a bowling party.

He is the son of Angel and Jared Ellis.

He has two siblings, Brighton and Avalynn.

Grandparents are Timothy Cantrell and Lesa Ackerman and Terri Stiver.

Maggie Ann Davis

OKMULGEE — Maggie Ann Davis celebrated her 38th birthday on Sept. 28, 2009.

She is the daughter of Charles Wayne Davis.

Grandparents are the late Frank and Annie Billy and the late Charley Davis and Mable Davis.

She is Muscogee (Creek), Cherokee and Choctaw.

She is of the Deer Clan and the Muddy Waters Tribal Town.

Isaiah Smith

OKMULGEE — Isaiah Smith celebrated his first birthday on Sept. 9, 2009 with a "Cars" themed party.

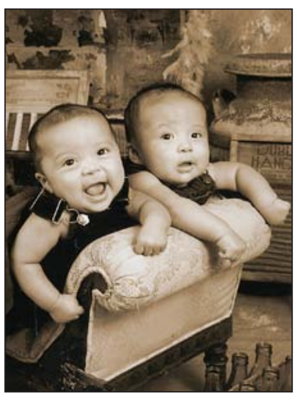
He is the son of Lahoma and Daniel.

Grandparents are Stanley and Betty Harjo.

Great grandmother is Lucille Joshua.

He is half Muscogee Creek and of the Wind Clan.

Lawson & Nelson Tiger



TULSA — Twins, Lawson Avery and Nelson Owen Tiger, were born May 5, 2009 at St. John's Hostipal.

Lawson weighed 7 pounds 7 ounces and was 20 inches in length.

Nelson weighed 7 pounds 1 ounce and was 19 inches in length.

Parents are Neenah Emarthle and Ted Tiger.

Grandparents are the late Sue Larney and Richard Emarthle and Charlotte Tiger and Ted Tiger.

Great grandparents are the late Serena and Ryder Larney and Nancy and Simon Harry.

They are of the Wind Clan.

Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:

Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)____________
Name: ______________________________
Address:______________________________
Date of Birth: ______________________
Theme of the party:__________________
Parents: ____________________________
Siblings: ____________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
School: ______________________________
Clan: ________________________________
Tribal Town:__________________________

Birth:

Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)____________
Name: ______________________________
Address:______________________________
Date of Birth: ______________________
Name of Hospital: ____________________
Weight: ______ pounds ______ ounces______inches
Parents: ____________________________
Siblings: ____________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
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Clan: ________________________________
Tribal Town:__________________________

Announcements:

Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)____________
Name: ______________________________
Address:______________________________
Parents: ____________________________
Siblings: ____________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
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Clan: ________________________________
Tribal Town:__________________________
Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

Last night I gave a musical performance with Larry Mitchell for the American Indian Studies Program at the University of Illinois in Urbana Champaign. We were given a numbered parking permit for a covered meter at the front of the student union. When we drove up the space was illegally taken by a red sports car with emergency blinking lights. No one was in the car. We couldn't load for sound check until we could park. The university police were called to tow the car. Shortly, four young jocks strode from the union with overnight bags to the car. Once they saw us, and security warned them to move, they slowed with a deliberate hatefulness. In their eyes, we had no business being on campus. We were not white. Fury rolled over me. I thought of the words George Coser, Jr. told me that had come from his parents, and had come from their parents; all the way back to the original teachings of our Mvskoke people. His words were something like this: "no matter what happens, stay in the direction of kindness." I restrained myself from leaping out and pounding the driver with words (and yes, I have succumbed before) and turned my energy toward what I was there for that night. I saw that if I had acted on fury I would have given the sick man some of my energy. And in turn, I would have taken on some of that hatefulness. This is the school that has been at the center of the Indian mascot controversy.

In the last month I have been to Anchorage, Alaska, to the En'owkin Centre, a native arts and cultures center on the Okanagan Reserve in British Columbia, Canada. I assisted in the visioning of the International Native Writing School. They were having a thirty-year anniversary. And then I flew to Berlin, Germany, to New Mexico, and now here. I carry stories from each place and have met our people in many of those places (except Berlin, but our people have traveled there. Some things that belong to us are in their museums) but the most touching and powerful story along the way recently was from last night, at the concert.

A Ho-Chunk and Hopi recent graduate, Angie Naquayouma, from Wisconsin brought her husband and four young children to the performance. They all sat on the front row: a beautiful native family. I was impressed with the behavior of the children. I did perform some things specifically for children, and children always love the saxophone and flutes. The children were well behaved throughout the hour and a half performance. At the end of the performance we had our photograph taken together. But what was most impressive and what I will always carry in my heart is that each child, before they left, beginning with the oldest, came over and expressed how much they enjoyed the performance. The oldest child, a boy of about seven, told me that he was happy to get out of a boring meeting to come and he really enjoyed the music, the next three young ones came in turn, and each very eloquently spoke. They have been trained to be real human beings. Yes, we will make it somehow, through the delusion of fast food and fast culture. This kind of behavior and speaking elevates all of us.

And finally, during a break at the one-day Indigenous Sexualities Conference, I heard that when the movie "Dances with Wolves" came out, the Native American Educational Services College in Chicago was called by area sperm banks for donations by Indian men. Now, why does this not surprise me?

MNN/Ruth Bible

Top: INPRO's 40 Under 40 class who were honored at a black-tie reception Sept. 18, 2009 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Tulsa, Okla.

Below: From Left to right are Three Muscogee (Creek) citizens were represented including Public Relations Manager for Tulsa's River Spirit Casino Tiffany Ellis, Deputy Executive Director/General Council for the National Indian Gaming Association in Washington, D.C., Jason Giles and Muscogee (Creek) National Council Tulsa District Rep. Cherrah Quiett.

Achievers

Continued from B1

The black-tie reception recognized 40 of Indian Country's brightest leaders from over 37 different nations under the age of 40 who have made exceptional contributions to Native America in their businesses and communities with particular impact on Indian Country.

Winners were chosen through a nomination process and then selected by a panel of representatives from the NCAIED. These talented American Indian professionals were chosen based on their demonstration of leadership, initiative and dedication to their tribes, communities and the advancement of Native Americans across the globe.

Three of the evening's recipients represented the Muscogee (Creek) Nation including Public Relations Manager for Tulsa's River Spirit Casino Tiffany Ellis, Deputy Executive Director/General Council for the National Indian Gaming Association in Washington, D.C., Jason Giles and Muscogee (Creek) National Council Tulsa District Rep. Cherrah Quiett.

The First American Leadership Awards (FALA) were also part of the evening's events. These awards recognized the academic accomplishments of current students with the distribution of scholarships to top Native undergraduate and graduate students majoring in business, who were selected based on their commitment to give back to Native communities across the U.S.

According to Chairwoman of NCAIED Margo Gray-Proctor, these events have come together to teach and benefit all of Indian Country.

"The intention of bringing INPRO and FALA together is to bring Indian leaders and corporations together in new areas of the country, and of course spur economic and business development for Indian Country," Proctor said.

Creek shooter sets sights on titles

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

KINGSLAND, Texas — Katherine Bridges has earned three national titles, six Texas state titles and two District titles in Smallbore (22 cal.) Rifle Competition.

She competed at the NRA Nationals in July and was the match winner scoring a 400-27x out of a possible 400-40x in what is known as the Dewar Match, beating out 321 competitors including all ages and classifications.

She out-performed the Army Marksmanship Unit and Lones Wigger who was inducted into the Olympic Hall of Fame last year and a legend among the world of shooting sports and all the prior national champions competing.

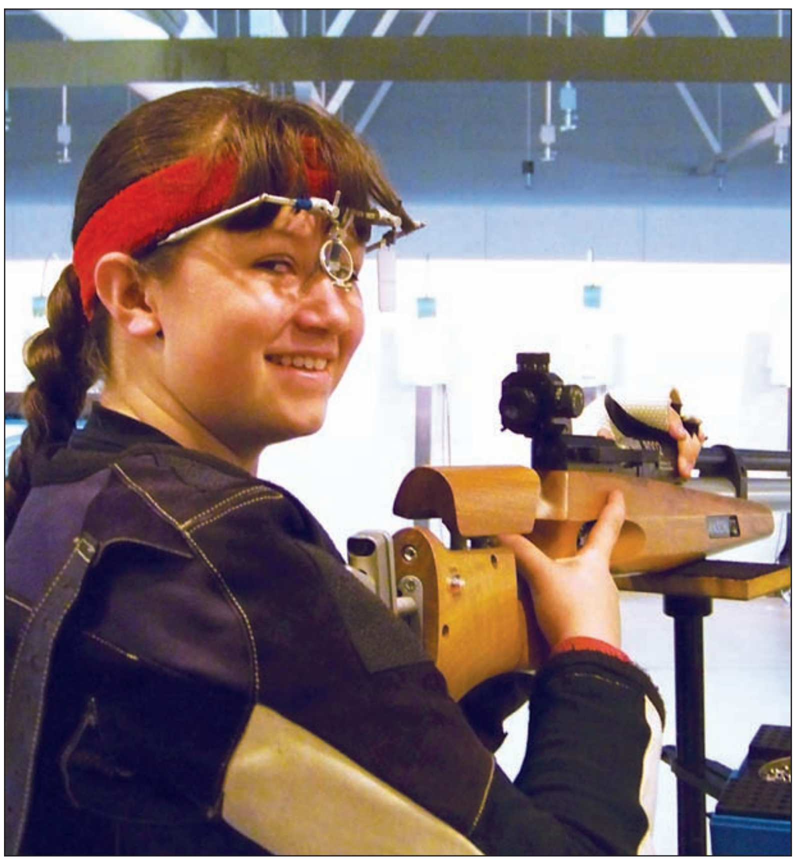
According to Bridge's parents, she is the youngest ever at the age of 14 years old to win the Dewar Match. Bridges boasts many accomplishments despite her age. She qualified to compete on the Randall's Team, which competes in a postal match against Great Britain but was unable to participate due to scheduling conflicts with the Whistler Boy Match. Bridges and another teammate placed 5th in the Whistler Boy Match.

On the Texas Junior Smallbore Prone Team she was the youngest of 4 and scored the highest marks, taking the National American Dewar Cup Trophy. She took 1st place in the NRA National Women On Target Postal Match during the inaugural year and received a trophy scoring a 291 out of 300. Shooting distances vary from match to match depending on district, state, and national events.

She has gained much notoriety for her accomplishments, which are remarkable for a young person. Despite losing her father in January 2008 to cancer, battle health issues of her, Bridges continues to hit her mark. "She is a straight-A student in school as well," said Bridges mother.

Such achievements can seldom be obtained without support. Bridges has great fan supporter in her mother, Rhonda Bridges who stated, "My hope is that she will encourage other young adults to follow their dreams and stay focused on academics. Perhaps her example will encourage another young adult to be what they want to be in life."

A Smallbore rifle competition is held over distances of 50 feet, 50 yards/meters, and/or 100 yards. Match competition can be as quick as 30 shots (10 shots prone, standing, kneeling) in a league or as long as 40 shots at the National Championships. Competition is conducted in as many as four positions - prone, sitting, kneeling and standing - to as few as one - prone only or standing only.



Pictured above and at right is Katie Bridges practicing with her precision air rifle which she also competes with at the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit Jr. Camp in Georgia.

OBITUARIES

DAVID L. BUNNER

MUSKOGEE — David Larry Bunner, age 61, of Muskogee, Okla., passed away on Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2009, at the Muskogee Veterans' Hospital after a long illness. He was better known by his family and friends as Dave or David, but many relatives still call him by his middle name, Larry.

He was born June 24, 1948 in Okemah, Okla., and is the son of David Lee and Ethel (Wind) Bunner. David was a member of the Little Quarsarty Indian Baptist Church and baptized by the late Dr. Frank Belvin and was raised in a Christian home. He graduated from Bearden High School in 1967 and served in the Army from 1969 to 1971.

On June 22, 1973, David married Martha Jane Billy. They made their home in Muskogee, where he was employed by the Muskogee Bureau of Indian Affairs. They moved to Tulsa then later returned to Muskogee when David's health needed more care.

David enjoyed many years of coaching little league baseball and watching school sports in which his children, nieces and nephews participated and those in which his grandchildren continue to participate. He was a devoted O.U. Sooner fan.

David and Martha were blessed with the presence of their five children and 10 grandchildren in their home. He enjoyed his family and they were a constant source of comfort and support to him. He was a devoted husband, father and grandfather.

His confession of belief and faith was made to the Rev. Spencer Wilkinson, Sr., and reaffirmation of his belief in Jesus Christ was made to the Rev. Norman Daniels during a prayer service held for him and his family.

He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Martha of the home; sons, Alyn Miller and Dusty Bunner, daughters, Chenina Miller, Tracy Bunner and Dana Bunner, all of Muskogee; 15 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren; brothers, Kenneth Bunner of Okmulgee, Gary Bunner of Tulsa, and Oscar Bunner of Seminole; sisters, Pat Bunner, Lorene Rabbit of Morris, Marjorie and Glen Kelley of Glenpool, and numerous other relatives and friends.

David was preceded in death by his parents, sister, Brenda Casey and daughter, LaDonna Sumka.

A celebration of life for David was held 2 p.m., Friday, Sept. 4,2009 at Butler Creek with Rev. Norman Daniels and Rev. Fred Lindsey officiating.

Interment was held 10 a.m., Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2009 at National Cemetery, in Ft. Gibson with a flag presentation by the Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard.

Pallbearers were Nicholas McBride, Keith Bunner, Eugene Kahbeah, David Allen, Bret Doty and Jerrod Bunner.

THANK YOU

MUSKOGEE — The Family of David Larry Bunner, brothers and sisters would like to express our thank you for the prayers, comforting words and flowers during our loss.

We would also like to say thank you to: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Services, VASO, the Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard, Lighthorse, Second Chief's Office, Rev. Norman Daniels of Butler Creek Baptist Church, Butler Creek Baptist Church members and Rev. Fred Lindsey.

SHIRLEY MAY FUCHS

MURPHY, Ind., — Born Shirley May Robinson in Modesto, Cali., Dec. 21, 1949 Shirley passed on to a better place on March 20, 2009.

She lived in Murphy, Ind., for the last 17 years. She was very creative and very proud of her Native American heritage and taught others to make medicine bags, bead work, dream catchers, mandellas, and oil paintings. She also did silver work, gold rings, sculpting and wall art of her own designs.

Shirley was preceded in death by nephew Zackery and parents Willis and Louise Robinson.

She leaves behind her husband and best friend Mark Fuchs, sons Richie and Cody, daughter Candy, sisters LeAnne Cox and Janie Robinson, six grand children and one great grand child due in September. We all loved her very much and miss her laughter.

Before she passed on she wrote this letter for us to share:

What a strange beautiful place, with a warm familiar feel to it. Where am I, how did I get here? I can see mountains, trees, a lake with fish swimming around, kids playing. The flowers are brilliant colors like they have been painted with a paint brush, I've never seen some of these colors before. I don't feel confused, I just feel good inside, happy. The feeling beams out of me like little sparks going everywhere. They are pieces of me shooting out into the bluest sky I have ever seen with white clouds so white they almost hurt my eyes.

A gentleman walks up to me and introduces himself, "My name is Willis and I'm here to keep you company, tell you some stories and show you around while you adjust to our way of being, so lets take a walk while I tell you stories."

"Where am I Willis?" I said.

"Oh, you know if you think real hard about it." Willis said

"Yes, I think I do know, but I'm not afraid."

Willis said "You shouldn't be, we don't have fear here, only a happy peaceful feeling. Have you ever soared with the Eagles?"

"No, I don't think I have."

"Well I got here that wayI flew like an Eagle in the sky, in fact I think I turned into one and in a second I was here, best feeling ever. Willis said.

"Willis, what time is it?"

"We don't have time here, a blink of an eye is an eternity." Willis said. "We all get here eventually."

I said "Willlis, if you could would you go back to what you knew and remember?"

"Why? Everyone I love are either already here or will be here in a minute or two, and I can show them the way to all our other family members, and we can laugh and tell stories together and stay in the warmth of the big guy's arms, or as I call him 'Chief', he has lots of names. And that's where I'm taking you now, to meet him, so don't worry, you will be together in just a little while, and everything will be just fine when you go to meet them and show them the way."

"I'm not worried, Willis."

"Good, that's my job here, as it will be yours to. And later we can go to one of them good ol' Pow Wows together."

I dreamed I was suppose to write this for you to let you know it will be okay.

- Shirley Fuchs

HATTIE MAE HENSLEY

MCCLOUD — Hattie Hensley of McCloud died Friday, Aug. 28, 2009 at the age of 61. She was born to James and Pauline Simmers Grayson June 10, 1948.

She was a long time resident of Okmulgee. She was also a member of Newtown Methodist Church.

She is preceded in death by James Grayson and James Lee Grayson.

Survivors include three sons, Cecil Autabo, Jr., of Anadarko, Floyd Smith of Lexington and Vernon Hensley of OKC, five sisters; Clara Williams, Marianne Scott, Kathryn Grayson and Diane Compton all of Okmulgee and Christine Bear of Duncan, one brother, Anthony Grayson of Lawton, four grandchildren, one great-grand child and many other family members and friends.

Pallbearers were Ruben Factor, Aaron Jones, Tomy Grayson, Yommie Menahwee, Jr., and Benjamin Ruttledge.

Honorary pallbearers were Terry Jones, Jeremy Monahwee, Ivan Bear, Nolan Grayson, Zachary Tiger and Jason Bear.

Funeral Services were held Friday, Sept. 4, 2009 at Belvin Baptist Church with Rev. Sam Chupco officiating. Interment was held in the Miller Family Cemetery under the direction of Schumacher Funeral Home.

JOSEPH JACOBS, SR.

HENRYETTA — Joseph Jacobs Sr., a longtime resident of the Henryetta area, died Thursday, Sept. 24, 2009 in Okmulgee at the age of 84. He was born December 28, 1924 in Henryetta, Okla., to John Jacobs and Susan (Davis) Jacobs. Joseph married Emma Billie Jacobs Dec. 3, 1948 in Henryetta.

Joseph was a member of the Hickory Ground #1 Indian Baptist Church in rural Henryetta, Okla.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Emma Jacobs, two infant daughters, and one son, James Jacobs, two grandsons, David Lee Jacobs and Charles Jacobs, two brothers and one sister.

He is survived by: his son, Paul Jacobs of Henryetta, son Johnny Jacobs and wife Clara of Henryetta, son, David Jacobs of Henryetta, daughter, Linda Harjo and husband Edward of Holdenville, daughter, Martha Jacobs of Henryetta, son, Joseph Jacobs Jr. and wife Naomi, son, Russell Jacobs of Okmulgee, 19 grandchildren, many great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren, two nephews, Barney Jacobs of Wewoka, John Josie of Henryetta, one niece, Beverly Yahola of Muskogee and a host of other relatives and friends.

A wake service was held at Hickory Ground #1 at 7 p.m., in rural Henryetta, Okla. Viewing was held Saturday, Sept. 25, 2009 from noon-8 p.m., and on Sunday from noon - 3:30 p.m.

Funeral services were held 2 p.m., Monday, Sept. 28, 2009 at Hickory Ground #1.

Interment followed in the Jacobs Family Cemetery in Henryetta under the direction of Integrity Funeral Service.

MYRTLE MCNATT

CASA GRANDE, Ariz., — Myrtle McNatt, 102, of Casa Grande died Aug. 18, 2009 in Casa Grande.

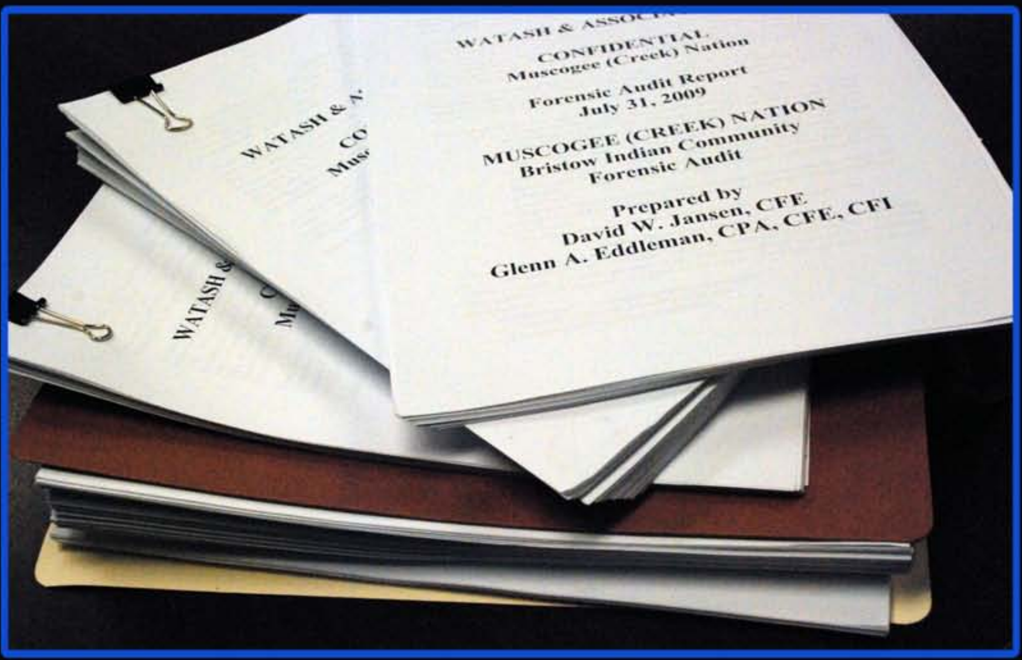
The remembrance service was held at the Church of Christ with Ministers Patrick Curo and Steve Curo officiating. Burial was held at the Mountain View Cemetery.

Mrs. McNatt was born Aug. 22, 1906 in Muskogee, and was a daughter of Dave and Mollie Hall. She was a homemaker and loved her family. She was a member of the Church of Christ and loved sewing and travel.

Survivors include two daughters, Jean Grubbs and Wynona Garrett of Casa Grande; two sisters Maurine Turner and Juanita Davis of Casa Grande; 14 grandchildren; 28 great grandchildren; 46 great great-grandchildren; and four great, great, great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband John; a daughter Charlene Myers; a brother Clyde Masterson; and a sister Mittie Holloway.

Get the facts!



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MOVIE NIGHT!

ATTN: MUSCOGEE VETERANS

In Honor of Muscogee Veterans
the VASO will be hosting
"MOVIE NIGHT"
(Thursday, 29 Oct 2009)
ALL BRANCHES

- Showtime - 1800 Hrs. - Thursday, 15 October 2009
- Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
- Movie - **CREATURE FROM THE BLACK LAGOON (with Richard Carlson & Julia Adams)**
- Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
- Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
- Smoking Lamp is Lit
- Price of Admission - Muscogee Veterans must wear their MCN Veterans Vest (If you do not have a vest bring in your DD-214 to be measured for a MCN Veterans vest).
- Muscogee Veterans are now allowed to bring one guest (Please limit to only one guest)
- **"Movie Night"** is for Muscogee Veterans only (Plus one guest)
- Any questions call Shawn Taryole at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7745

ADVERTISEMENT

The District Court filings from July 2009 are as follows

(continued from A2):

Warner True Value Hardware v. Doug Fraley	Foreign Judgment
Claremore Regional Hospital v. Ronald Burns	Foreign Judgment

Divorce:

Melanie Byrd v. Christopher Byrd	Divorce
Katrina Jared v. Joshua Jared	Divorce
Tawna Smith v. Nathanael Smith	Divorce
Karen Little v. Thomas Little	Divorce
Cella Brownlee v. Sherrell Brownlee	Divorce
Jamie McNac-Pritchard v. Christopher Pritchard	Divorce
Geri Brown-McClellan v. Benjamin McClellan	Divorce
Jessica Gallardo v. Angel Gallardo	Divorce
Billie Whitehead v. Zachary Whitehead	Divorce
Crystal Gabino v. Carlos Gabino	Divorce
Sherry Ewert v. Rickard Ewert	Divorce
Elizabeth Leader v. Billy Wells	Divorce

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex reI., Stacey Freand v. Lester Gifford	Child Support
OCSE, ex reI., DeeAnn Cantrell v. Shannon McBroom	Child Support
OCSE, ex reI., Cherly Wittman v. Jerry Wittman	Child Support
OCSE, ex reI., Sarah Sanders v. Joshua Sanders	Child Support
OCSE, ex reI., JoAnn Adair v. Duane Robinson	Child Support

Ex-Parte:

Donna Naylor v. Linda, Crystal & Harold Naylor Sr.	Ex-Parte
Casey Camp v. Kenneth Camp	Ex-Parte
Amy Hill v. Kenneth Camp	Ex-Parte
Floyd Harjo v. Edna Harjo	Ex-Parte
Renee Jones v. Heather Tecumseh	Ex-Parte

Criminal Misdemeanor

MCN v. Morgan Chambers	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
MCN v. Crystal Naylor	Ct. 1: Assault & Battery

Criminal Felony

MCN v. Owen Shortt	Ct. 1: Embezzlement

Traffic:

MCN v. Robert Lowe	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Cynthia Millican	Ct. 1: Driving while Revoked
MCN v. Kitty Jo Pollard	Ct.1:DUS
MCN v. Sharon Augustine	Ct.1:DUR
MCN v. Trisha Fox	Ct.1:DUS
MCN v. Larry Sanders	Ct.1:DUS
MCN v. Larry Sanders	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Rena Speed	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Rena Speed	Ct. 1: No Drivers License
MCN v. Larry Tucker	Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol
MCN v. Timothy Price	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Shari Golay	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Rodolfo Escamilla	Ct. 1: Duties in the Event of an Accident
MCN v. Rodolfo Escamilla	Ct. 1: No Drivers License
MCN v. Louie Brown	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Bradley Debungee	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Xin Zeng	Ct. 1: Turning without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Heather Andrews	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning, Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Morgan Chambers	Ct. 1: Operating in a Manner not Reasonable and Proper
MCN v. Stephen Howard	Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Property
MCN v. Freddie Gryder	Ct.1:DUS
MCN v. Marice Penn	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Antonio Brooks	Ct.1:DUS
MCN v. Leonard Maxwell	Ct.1:DUS
MCN v. Leonard Maxwell	Ct. 1: Expired Drivers License
MCN v. Stefanie Davey	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Marshall Hill	Ct.1:DUS
MCN v. Craig Clifton	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning, Stopping, without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Jose Huerta	Ct.1:DUS
MCN v. David Baguri	Ct. 1: Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land
MCN v. Juan Semeria	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. William Perneau	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. William Perneau	Ct.1:DUS
MCN v. Raymond Cappabianca	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Raymond Cappabianca	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning, Stopping, without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Michael Gonzalez	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Michael Gonzalez	Ct. 1: No Insurance
	Ct. 1: DUS

The District Court filings from August 2009 are as follows:

Civil:

PB Advisors Inc., v. Jeremy Plunkett	Foreign Judgment
National Quik Cash v. Shaila Baldridge	Small Claims
Cash Security v. Edith Harwood	Small Claims
Bea Ann Epperson, dba Eppco Builder's v. The Muscogee (Creek Nation) National Council	Petition
Riverside Autoplex v. Dana Johnson	Foreign Judgment
Dixie Finance v. Katrina Beaver	Small Claims
Dixie Finance v. Edania Beaver	Small Claims
Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. Six Hundred Eighteen Dollars and no/100	Forfeiture
Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. One Hundred Fifty-Six Dollars and no/100	Forfeiture
Brittany Jackson v. Clifford Dixon	Petition
National Quik Cash v. Susan Humble	Small Claims
Empire Finance v. Lou Jean Tilley	Small Claims
Aaron Lunsford v. Esmeralda Herrera	Petition
Nicholas Wilbanks v. Randi Foust	Petition

To be continued in November MNN

VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION

TUESDAY, 10 NOVEMBER 2009

All Muscogee Veterans are encouraged to attend our tribe's Veterans Day celebration at the Veterans building, Muscogee (Creek) Nation complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

- **1000** **Division formation**
- **1015** **Statues dedication**
  Women Veterans statue
  LTC Childers (Medal of Honor WWII)
- **1030** **Open house**
- **1100** **Chow**

Please call
Ken Davis (918) 732-7739,
Mrs. Fannie Barnett (918) 732-7744
or Shawn Taryole (918) 732-7745
to log in your attendance. Mvto.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

River Spirit presents check to Girls Inc.

BUSINESS/GAMING - A5

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November is national Diabetes Awareness month

HEALTH - A6

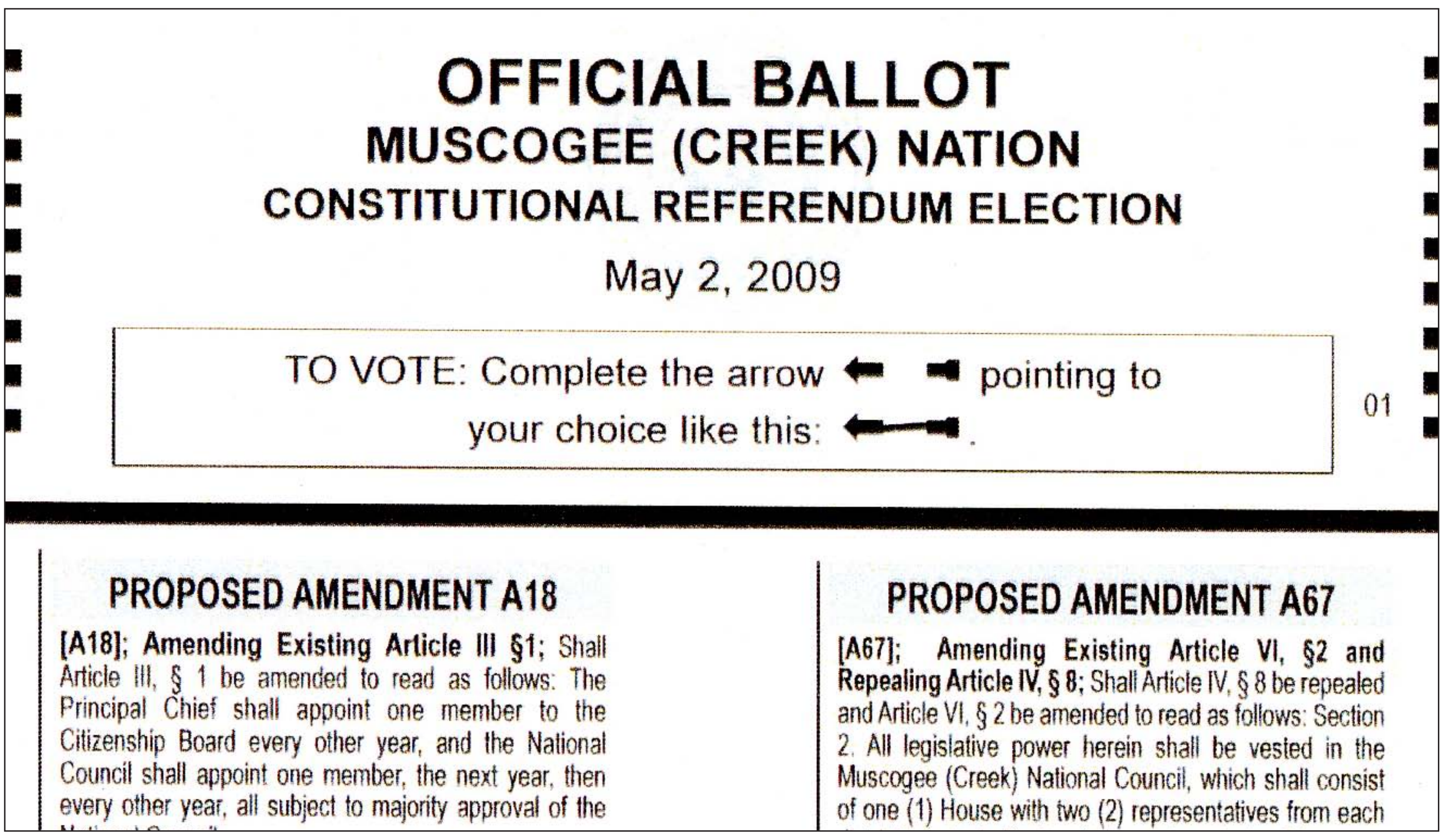
MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

NOVEMBER 2009
Volume 39, Issue 11
SEMI-MONTHLY

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

Amendments go to a vote

• All precincts open Nov. 7, 2009 for Special Election



OFFICIAL BALLOT
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENDUM ELECTION
May 2, 2009

TO VOTE: Complete the arrow ← ■ pointing to your choice like this: ←■.

01

PROPOSED AMENDMENT A18

[A18]; Amending Existing Article III §1; Shall Article III, § 1 be amended to read as follows: The Principal Chief shall appoint one member to the Citizenship Board every other year, and the National Council shall appoint one member, the next year, then every other year, all subject to majority approval of the

PROPOSED AMENDMENT A67

[A67]; Amending Existing Article VI, §2 and Repealing Article IV, § 8; Shall Article IV, § 8 be repealed and Article VI, § 2 be amended to read as follows: Section 2. All legislative power herein shall be vested in the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, which shall consist of one (1) House with two (2) representatives from each

MCN/*Election Board*

Pictured above is a sample ballot which includes the proposed Muscogee (Creek) Nation constitutional amendments passed at the convention last November. All voting precincts will be open Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009 in order to allow citizens the opportunity to vote on the amendments and the three run-off elections for National Council seats F, D and B for Tulsa, Okmulgee and Okfuskee Districts.

MVSKOKE CITIZENS
CAST THEIR VOTES

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation will host three run-off elections in Tulsa, Okmulgee and Okfuskee Districts for the General Election set for Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009.

In Tulsa District, Incumbent Kara Medina and Carol McHenry Williams will be included on the ballot for Seat F. In Okmulgee, Incumbent Carmin Tecumseh-Williams and Pearl Thomas are candidates for Seat D and in Okfuskee District, Incumbent Lena Wind and Mary L. (Severs) Lee will be the candidates on the ballot for Seat B.

All Muscogee (Creek) Nation voting precincts will be open on this date from 7 a.m., to 7 p.m., in order to allow voters the opportunity to vote on the constitutional amendments passed at the convention last year in November 2008.

For more information, please contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board at (918) 732-7684.

MNN/*Rebecca Landsberry*

2009 Council Oak Tree Ceremony

• New flame added to a timeless Mvskoke tradition

MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Pictured above is Muscogee artist Dan Brook along with Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis at the Council Oak Tree Ceremony held on Tulsa, Okla. Saturday, Oct. 24,2009 near Stickball Park at 18th and Cheyenne, Tulsa, Okla.

by Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

TVLSE — The afternoon of Saturday, October 24, 2009 marked the annual Council Oak Tree Ceremony.

Felix Brown, Jr. of Fuco Hvtce (Duck Creek) Ceremonial Ground served as Afvcketv Enhomahtv for the event. Totkv Kulecetv (lighting of the fire) was performed by Jimmy Deere, Second Chief of Vsselanvpe (Green Leaf). The fire represents our ancestors whom carried the embers from our homelands to where we have resettled and now call home.

Yicakcvt Estonkot Heremahe (welcome) was performed by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis as he greeted everyone and introduced the mekkos and/or representatives for each of the ceremonial grounds. Chief Ellis expressed, "How good it was to be here with our own."

He stated that our ancestors settled here approximately 180 years ago and were one of the first to settle here in what is now the City of Tulsa.

Ellis stated, "The name Tvlse came from Creeks. The irony of this is that now is that the Etvlwv once owned both sides of the river. Over the years, it has been divided many times and now our casino on the river has tried to put 40 acres of land into trust and the City of Tulsa fights us over it. We have contributed so much to what Tulsa is today. Now we have to fight for everything."

Ellis stated that he was invited by Cherokee Chief Chad Smith to attend the premiere of Cherokee Nation's Trail of Tears film at the same time as Council Oak. "We have our own representative that sat on the Trail of Tears committee out of Tennessee Second Chief Alfred Berryhill. Approximately a year ago, Second Chief stepped down from the committee stating "There were more than just the Cherokees on that Trail of Tears."

SEE OAK - B2

Annual Pink Party draws record attendance

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — "I have never seen such a turn out for a tribal-based breast cancer awareness event, even more impressive is the number of survivors attending the event," said Alisa Gilbert, keynote speaker from Anchorage, Alaska.

The seventh annual "Pink Party," held Oct. 21, 2009 at Covelle Hall on the OSU Okmulgee Institute of Technology boasted a record attendance as participants filled the auditorium which was offered as the event location by the college. From the monumental outpouring of donations in support of the event to the numerous attendees seeking to fight breast cancer through education and prevention, the 2009 event was a chart-topper. An important contribution to the success of the event was the energetic health care staff.

SEE PINK - A6

'Creek Beat' still available on KOKL AM 1240 in Okmulgee

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

OKMULGEE—Last month, the Creek Nation Radio Program, 'Creek Beat' moved its broadcast online in order to expand listenership.

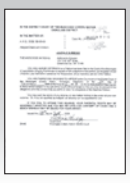
In addition to the 30-minute broadcast heard at www.mvskokefood.org, Okmulgee's local KOKL AM 1240 radio station will continue to carry the show each Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m.

The program will still be available on the Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative Web site at: www.msvkokefood.org, where listeners may scroll to the 'streaming radio' link to listen to the Creek Nation Radio Program each Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m. (CST), or anytime.

The Creek Nation Radio Program may also be heard on the official Muscogee (Creek) Nation Web site at www.themuscogeecreeknation.com by clicking the 'Creek Beat' logo and past shows will be available on both Web sites.

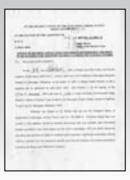
For more information on please contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department at (918) 732 - 7635.

EXECUTIVE A2
District Court Fillings



COMMUNITY A3
Muskogee Casino: Talent Search

LEGAL NOTICES A4
Order Setting Hearing: K.N.C. Adoption



BUSINESS/GAMING A5
Fountainhead Creek Golf Course spruces up the front nine

PROGRAMS/NOTICES A7
Tobacco Prevention expands SWAT

EDUCATION A8
Finding and winning scholarships: Part II

Communications Department - P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447

Muscogee Nation News
STAFF
Manager - Gerald Wofford
Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
Senior Writer - Angel Ellis
Cultural Reporter - Ruth Bible
Sports Writer - Jason Salsman
Photojournalist - Starla Bush
Reporter - Joshua Slane
Reporter - Jennifer Taryole
Graphic Design - Crystal Lumpkin
Graphic Design - Tyler Roberds
Circulation - Wilma Murphy

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Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

District Court filings for August 2009

The District Court filings from Aug. 1, 2009 thru Aug. 31, 2009 are as follows:

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex rel., Wilma West v. Edward Scott	Child Support

Ex-Parte:

Katherine Hill v. Chad Hill	Ex-Parte
Linda Thornburg v. Robert Lagle	Ex-Parte
Lon Bear v. Charles Knight	Ex-Parte
Bonnie McDade v. Charles Knight	Ex-Parte
Robin Holland v. Carl Holland Sr.	Ex-Parte
Melinda Al-Dabbagh v. John Al-Dabbagh	Ex-Parte
Sonny Fish v. DeeAnna Fish	Ex-Parte
Brenna Littlehead v. Chelsea Jackson	Ex-Parte
Melinda Al-Dabbagh v. John Al-Dabbagh	Ex-Parte

Criminal Misdemeanor

MCN v. Brandon Berryhill	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
MCN v. Dustin Harjo	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
MCN v. Daniel Buck	Ct. 1: Trespassing Ct. 2: Malicious Mischief
MCN v. Timothy Wiley	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
MCN v. Taren Smith	Ct. 1: Battery

Criminal Felony

MCN v. Anita Fields	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Robert Yargee	Ct. 1: Assault & Battery
MCN v. Krista Buttrey	Ct. 1: Larceny

Traffic:

MCN v. Raymond Cappabianca	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning, and Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Raymond Cappabianca	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Michael Gonzalez	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Michael Gonzalez	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Jason Fox	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Jason Fox	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Adam Murphy	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Joel Parker	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Carla Stevens	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
MCN v. Carla Stevens	Ct. 1: Duties in the Event of an Accident
MCN v. David Bickford	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Samuel Stock-Glausner	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. LeyRay Edgar	Ct. 1: No Drivers License
MCN v. Eugene Ivan	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Dyrl French	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. John Montes	Ct. 1: No Driver's License
MCN v. Angela Russell	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Patrick Crisp	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Patrick Crisp	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Michael Hawkins	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Michael Hawkins	Ct. 1: Expired Tag.
MCN v. Michael Hawkins	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Slame Rawlings	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Dorika Cockroft	Ct. 1: Expired Tag

District Court filings for September 2009

The District Court filings from Sept. 1 through Sept. 30, 2009 are as follows:

Civil:

Marva Proctor v. Derrick Holmes	Petition
Christopher Matthews v. Amanda Faulk	Petition
Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. Eight Hundred Five Dollars ($805.00) Chips	Forfeiture
Continental Credit v. Rhonda Thompson	Small Claims
Asset Acquisition Group, LLC., as Assignee of Bank One N.A., v. Veletta Anderson	Foreign Judgment
Emilee Gourd v. Leonel Mares	Petition
Austin Jones v. Jessica Ingram	Petition
Randolph Scott v. Thelma Cuts the Rope	Petition
Banner Finance v. Erin Harjo	Small Claims
Affordable Bail Bonds v. Veletta Anderson	Foreign Judgment
In the Matter of: April Barnett	Name Change
Dustin Cloud v. Shannon James	Petition

Marriage License:

Gary Bramlett & Georgina Macias	Marriage
Christopher Azbell & Lacey Earls	Marriage

Divorce:

Cassandra Powell v. Kody Powell	Divorce
Patty Elliott v. Kenneth Elliott	Divorce
Charles Watashe v. Shirley Watashe	Divorce
Margaret Hobia v. Tiger Hobia	Divorce
Melinda AI-Dabbagh v. John AI-Dabbagh	Divorce
Cynthia Cruz v. Michael Cruz	Divorce
Willie Dority v. Robin Dority	Divorce
Wilburn Hobia v. Rachell Hobia	Divorce
Kevin Haikey v. Melissa Haikey	Divorce
Mekko Riley v. Melissa Riley	Divorce
Tiffany Foreman v. Dusty Foreman	Divorce
Debra Owen v. Shawn Owen	Divorce
Delilah Stauffer v. Howard Stauffer	Divorce
Autumn Parkerson v. Barry Parkerson	Divorce
Kathryn Zackery v. Milford Martin	Divorce
Michelle Leek v. Jeffrey Leek	Divorce

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex reI., Cassie Epperson v. Jason Bleeker	Child Support
OCSE, ex reI., Gerlanda Smith v. Montri Brinkley	Child Support

Ex-Parte:

Jennie McNac v. Marcus Lawrence	Ex-Parte
Alissa Woodfield-Glass v. Bryant Barcindebar	Ex-Parte
Jack Smith v. Kristy Frair	Ex-Parte
Patricia Dunn & Debra Rabbitt v. Charles Watashe	Ex-Parte

Criminal Misdemeanor

MCN v. Bob Tsosie	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
MCN v. Christopher Wayland	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
MCN v. Kirsten Arkeketa	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication

Criminal Felony

MCN v. Jason East	Ct. 1: Carrying Weapon in or Building on Tribal Land

Traffic:

MCN v. Sammye Henson	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Sherry Waters	Ct. 1: No Tag
MCN v. Joshua Hickey	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning, & Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Joshua Hickey	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Derek Taylor	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning & Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Trixie Myers	Ct. 1: No Driver's License
MCN v. Anthony Medley	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Michael Tucker	Ct.1:DUS
MCN v. Carlton Kennedy	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Candy McCourt	Ct.1:DUS
MCN v. Timmy Houser	Ct.1:DUS
MCN v. Jasmine Ibarra	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Jasmine Ibarra	Ct. 1: No Driver's License
MCN v. Martha Ogle	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Brent Wadkins	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Brent Wadkins	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Heather Biggs	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning & Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Jeff Ashby	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Jackeline Gomez	Ct.1:DUS
MCN v. Bobbie Branchcomb	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning & Stopping without Regard to Safety

Letters to the Editor

Citizen urges all to vote Nov. 7, 2009 in Special Election

OKMULGEE — In November 2008, I participated in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitutional Convention along with hundreds of other Muscogee (Creek) citizens. Overall, the atmosphere was positive in spite of debating significant and sensitive issues.

I was, however, disappointed by the lack of participation by the Nation's elected officials, particularly the National Council, throughout the entire session. The purpose of the convention was to discuss amendments to our tribal constitution, which is the heart and identity of our Nation. I expected 100 percent participation of the National Council. If the Nation's elected officials cannot take the time to listen to its own citizens, then how do they expect to represent the views of the people?

It is because of such actions, that I urge all registered voters to let their voice be heard by voting in the election on November 7, 2009. Each and every voter can be heard on this day when several amendments to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution will be on the ballot for consideration. If you are a registered voter, please join our tribal members in bringing long-needed change to the way our tribal government has run.

Amendment A-67 is a step in the right direction. Approval of this amendment would reduce the number of National Council members and lessen the bureaucracy of tribal government. It is time to reduce the size of the National Council. By reducing the Council to a reasonable number of two per district, the Nation will also save money in travel costs and stipends.

In closing, I ask your support in marking your ballots on November 7, 2009. When you come upon consideration of A-67, mark yes! I believe this is a positive step forward for the Muscogee Nation and its citizens.

- Curtis Hicks

Rodeos will become more family-friendly without tobacco sponsors

EDMOND — There is great news for families that enjoy the sport of rodeo. We are one step closer to tobacco free rodeo events. The Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) announced recently that U.S. Smokeless Tobacco Company (maker of Copenhagen) will end their sponsorship agreement with the PRCA at the end of this year. Hopefully this signals the start of a tobacco free era for professional rodeo. The sport of rodeo has been around since the 1800's. Tobacco sponsorships only began in 1986.

A number of organizations including, Buck Tobacco, Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, and Oklahoma Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) have been instrumental in sending out the message - Rodeos Are For Families – Not Big Tobacco.

Nationwide 14% of boys ages 12-17 use smokeless tobacco, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Let's continue this path to make all rodeos tobacco free. Let's send the signal to kids that tobacco has no part in being a cowboy or a rodeo fan.

- Matt Wilson

"Still no phones for the elderly"

OKMULGEE — As you may recall in the October issue of the Muscogee Nation News, I reported that after more than a year, the elderly were still waiting for their telephones, telephones that would be used to call 911 in case of an emergency. We are now into November and we're still waiting.

On October 22, 2009 at 4:05 p.m., my neighbor who lives two doors down on the left from me had an emergency and had to be taken to the hospital in an ambulance after calling 911. She was lucky she had a phone.

As my next door neighbor and I watched the ambulance drive away, I asked her if she had a phone. She told me she and her husband have a cell phone. I asked, "What would you do in case of an emergency and you had to call 911 and your battery was down?" She thought for a minute and said, "I guess we'd be in trouble." So that made me wonder how many of the elderly who live here would be in trouble in case of a life or death situation when they needed to call 911 and they had forgotten to charge the cell phone battery. I don't like to think about it.

It is my intention to report every month to the Muscogee people our dire situation here at the Elderly Housing concerning the telephones or lack there of.

- Bob Hicks
MCN Elderly Housing resident

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CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

All MCN precincts open

OKMULGEE — General Election is set for Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009. All Muscogee (Creek) Nation voting precincts will be open on this date in order to allow voters the opportunity to vote on the constitutional amendments passed at the convention last in Nov. 2008.

For more information contact the Election Board (918) 732-7684.

Native American Heritage month event

TULSA — Taking place at the Rose Bowl Event Center, located at 7419 east 11th street, Tulsa is the Fourth Annual World Championship Fry Bread Cook-Off.

There will also be arts and crafts on site as well musical performances featuring: Litefoot, Butch Powell & 50/50 band, and O.I.T, and Indian Soul Men.

Admission is available at the door, and ticket prices are $5.

For more information call (918)-513-1810.

C&FS Angel Tree

OKMULGEE—Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services is currently selling chances to win a $300 gift card to Kohl's to help fund their angel tree project.

The drawing will take place on Nov. 18 before the Thanksgiving Break, just in time for "Black Friday Shopping."

For more information, please contact Cynthia at (918) 732-7878.

13th Annual Euchee Heritage Festival

GLENPOOL — The Euchee Tribe of Indians, E.U.C.H.E.E, Oklahoma Arts Council and National Endowment for the arts presents the 13th Annual Euchee Heritage Festival to be held on Friday, Nov. 6 and Saturday, Nov. 7.

The Festival will take place at the Glenpool Creek Indian Community Center on HWY 75 and 141st Street. Events will include traditional meal, language presentation, bingo, horseshoe tournament, arts presentation by Richard Whitman, story telling by Lester Revis and special story telling by Will Hill, shell-shaking presentation and stomp-dance.

Benefit Bingo

OKMULGEE — A benefit bingo will be held for Lena Tiger to offset medical expenses. The event is sponsored by friends and family of Lena.

The bingo will be held Saturday, Nov. 14 at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center which is located at 2801 N. Miami in Okmulgee.

A food sale will begin at 5 p.m., with bingo begining at 6 p.m. For more information contact Lucy Tiger at (918) 224-6954.

Muscogee Marine Veteran's Movie Night

Okmulgee — In celebration of the birth month of the United States Marine Corps, VASO will be hosting movie night Thursday, Nov. 12 for Muscogee Marine Corps Veterans.

Viewing will be held at the MCN Veterans Building. Windtalkers starring Adam Beach and Nicolas Cage will be the feature of the evening. Showtime begins at 1800 Hrs. Popcorn and Coke or Diet Coke is provided and Veterans are allowed one guest.

Marines Corps veterans must wear their MCN Veteran Vest in order to get into the event. If they do not have a vest bring in forms DD-214 to be measured for one.

If you have any questions call Shawn Taryole at the MCN VASO at (918)-32-7745.

Native Business Network

TULSA — The November meeting for the Native Business Network is scheduled for Nov. 12 2009 from 11:30 a.m., to 1 p.m. Meetings are held at the Tulsa Marriot Southern Hills located at 1902 East 71st Street in Tulsa, Okla.

NBN meets the second Tuesday of each month. RSVP is required and member lunch is $15.00 with RSVP. Non-member charge is $25.00 and members without reservations cost $20.00.

The speaker for the Nov. Meeting is Jane Goble-Clark. Clark is the director of the American Indian Institute, one of the University of Oklahoma's longest standing continuing education programs. For more information call (918)-299-2778.

OKC Muscogee (Creek) Association meeting

OKLAHOMA CITY — On the first Tuesday of every month the OKC Muscogee Creek Association holds a monthly community meeting. Available at the meeting are Creek culture, fellowship, tribal updates, OCMA social services/community activities and events.

Meetings begin at 6:30 p.m., each Tuesday and take place at 1500 NE 4th Street, Suite 104 Oklahoma City, OK 73101. For more information, call (405) 605-2621 or e-mail okc_creeks@yahoo.com.

Challenge Bowl 2010

TULSA — Registrations forms for the 2010 Challenge Bowl are now available online at www.themuscogeecreeknation.com. Deadline for registration is Jan. 8, 2010 at 5 p.m.

The Challenge Bowl will be held at the new location at Bell Annex located at 209 S. Lakewood in Tulsa, Okla.

The Elementary competition will be held Feb. 11, 2010, followed by Middle School on Feb. 18, and High School competition will be on Feb. 25, 2009.

For more information contact Virginia Thomas at (918) 732-7842.

Montesoma Baptist Church Revival

HAYDONVILLE — Montesoma Baptist Church in Haydonvill, Ok is having a revival beginning on Nov. 13 through Nov. 15. Revival begins at 7:30p.m. nightly and Sunday at 11:00 a.m.

The Evangelist will be Gary Hawkins. For transportation to the revival please call (918)-623-9126.

Yardeka Head Start Fund Raiser

YARDEKA — The Yardeka Head Start Parent Committee will hold a fund-raiser bingo and food sale Nov. 14 2009. The food sale begins at noon and bingo at 2 p.m.

The bingo and food sale will be held at the Yardeka Comminity/Head Start Building located south of the Salem Baptist Church.

Head Start parents please remember supplies and fundraiser tickets are due on Nov. 12.

For more information contact Committee V.P at (918)- 504-0077.

Hill and Lindsey Family Reunion

HANNA — The Hill and Lindsey Family is holding a reunion dinner on Nov. 14, 2009 The dinner will be held at the Hanna Indian Community Center and begins at 11 a.m. Please bring your favorite covered dish. For more information call Amy Hill at (918) 623-1804.

Monthly Community Meetings Schedule

Bristow meets the third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

Checotah meats the second Monday of the month at 6 p.m.

Cromwell meets the first Saturday of the month at 10 a.m.

Dewar meets the third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

Duck Creek meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

Dustin meets the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

Eufaula meets the last Thursday of the month at 6 p.m.

Glenpool meets the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Hanna meets the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m.

Holdenville meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

Kellyville meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

Koweta meets the third Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

Muscogee meets the first Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

Okemah meets the third Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

Okfuskee meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

OCMA meets the first Tuesday of the month.

Okmulgee meets the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

Sapulpa meets the first Monday of the month at 7 p.m.

Tulsa meets the last Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

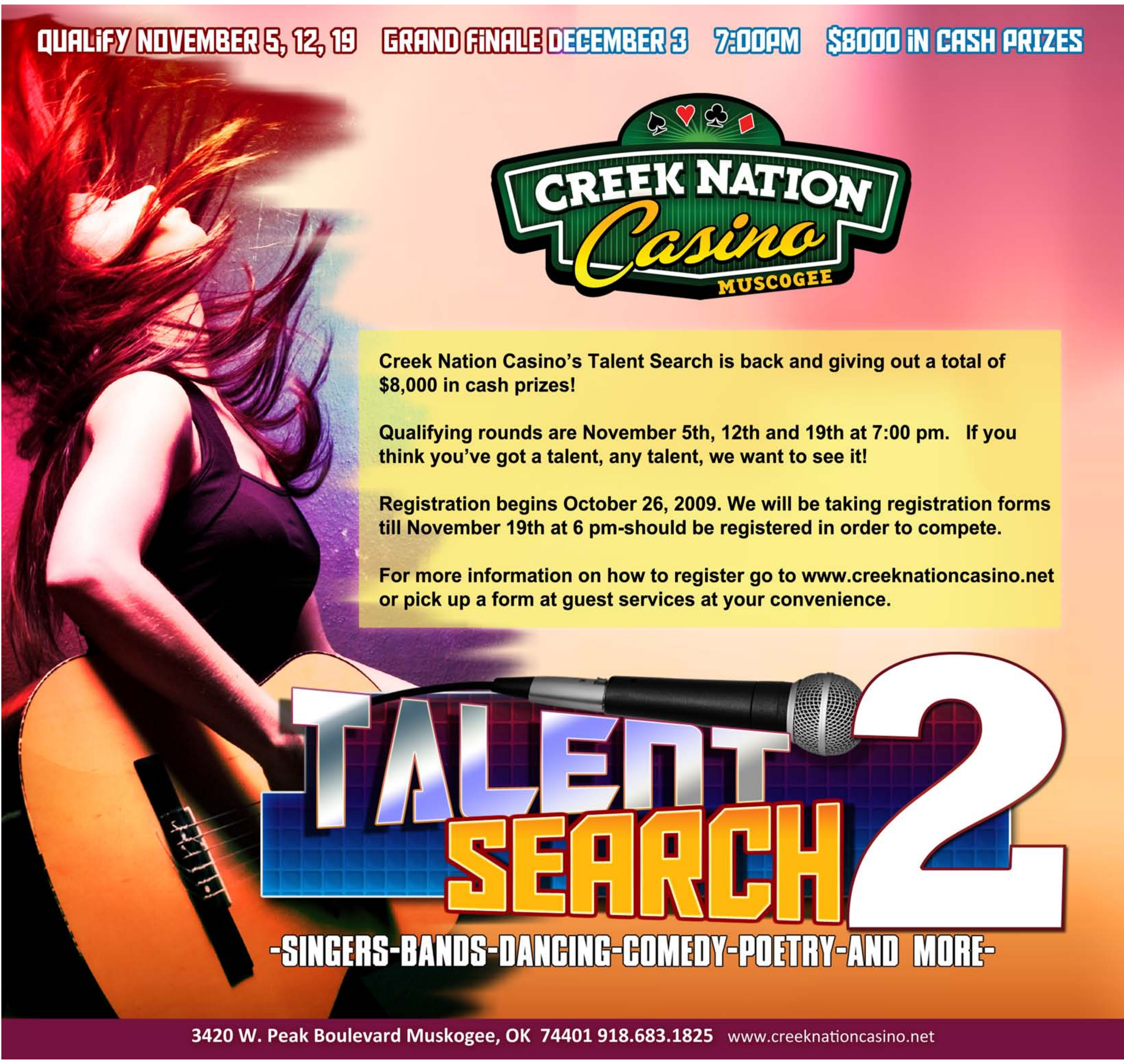
Twin Hills meets the last Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

Weleetka meets the last Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

Wetumka meets the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m.

Wilson meets the last Thursday of the month at 7 p.m.

Yardeka meets the last Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m.



QUALiFY NOVEMBER 5, 12, 19 GRAND FiNALE DECEMBER 3 7:00PM $8000 iN CASH PRIZES
CREEK NATION Casino MUSCOGEE

Creek Nation Casino's Talent Search is back and giving out a total of $8,000 in cash prizes!

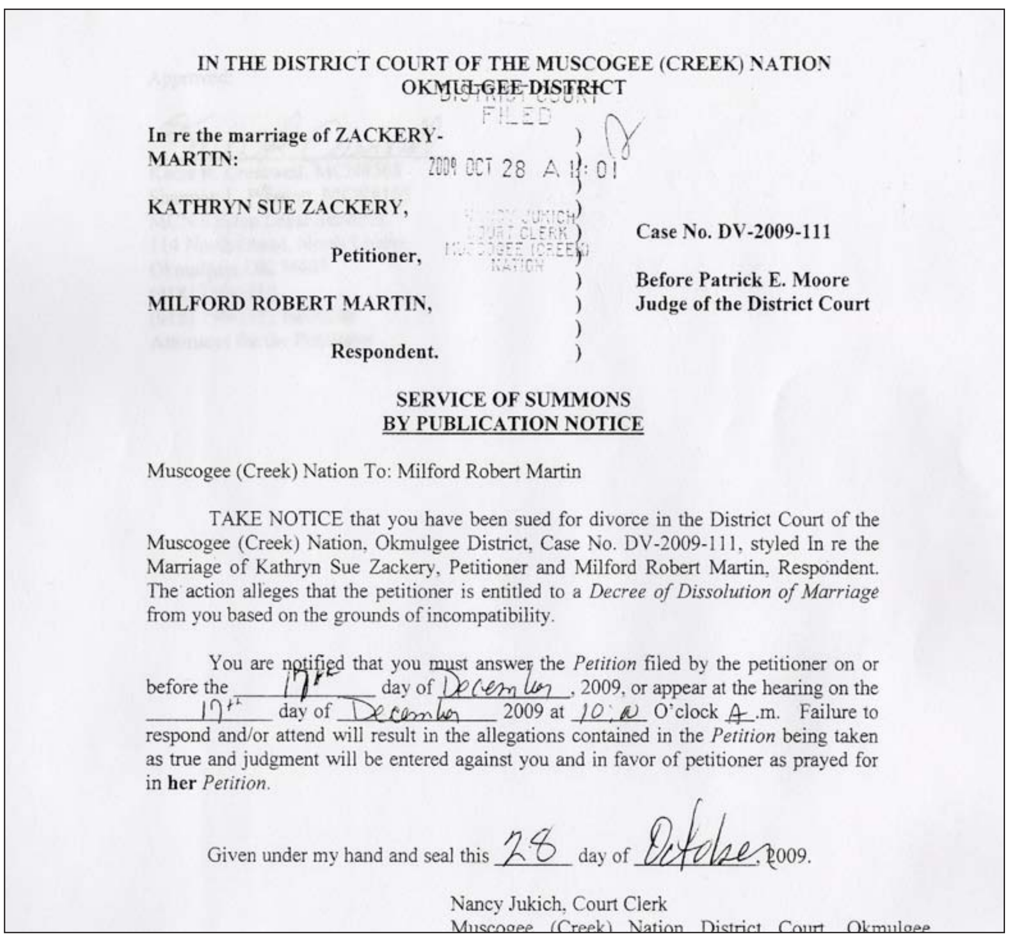
Qualifying rounds are November 5th, 12th and 19th at 7:00 pm. If you think you've got a talent, any talent, we want to see it!

Registration begins October 26, 2009. We will be taking registration forms till November 19th at 6 pm-should be registered in order to compete.

For more information on how to register go to www.creeknationcasino.net or pick up a form at guest services at your convenience.

3420 W. Peak Boulevard Muskogee, OK 74401 918.683.1825 www.creeknationcasino.net

Legal Notices (continued on B6)



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED 2009 OCT 28 A 11:01 NANCY JUKICH COURT CLERK MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

In re the marriage of ZACKERY-MARTIN:

KATHRYN SUE ZACKERY,
Petitioner,

MILFORD ROBERT MARTIN,
Respondent.

Case No. DV-2009-111

Before Patrick E. Moore
Judge of the District Court

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

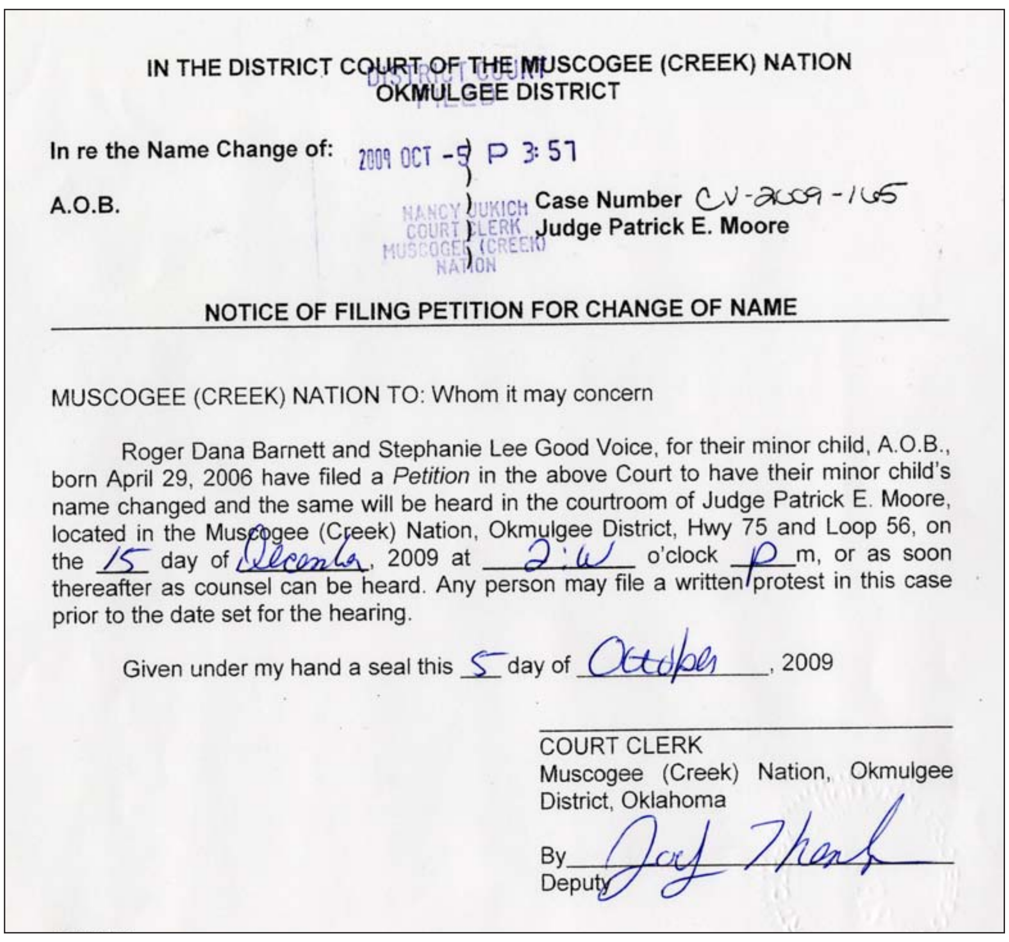
Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Milford Robert Martin

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2009-111, styled In re the Marriage of Kathryn Sue Zackery, Petitioner and Milford Robert Martin, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner on or before the 17th day of December, 2009, or appear at the hearing on the 17th day of December 2009 at 10:00 O'clock A.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in **her** *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 28 day of October, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED 2009 OCT -5 P 3:57 NANCY JUKICH COURT CLERK MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

In re the Name Change of:

A.O.B.

Case Number CV-2009-165
Judge Patrick E. Moore

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

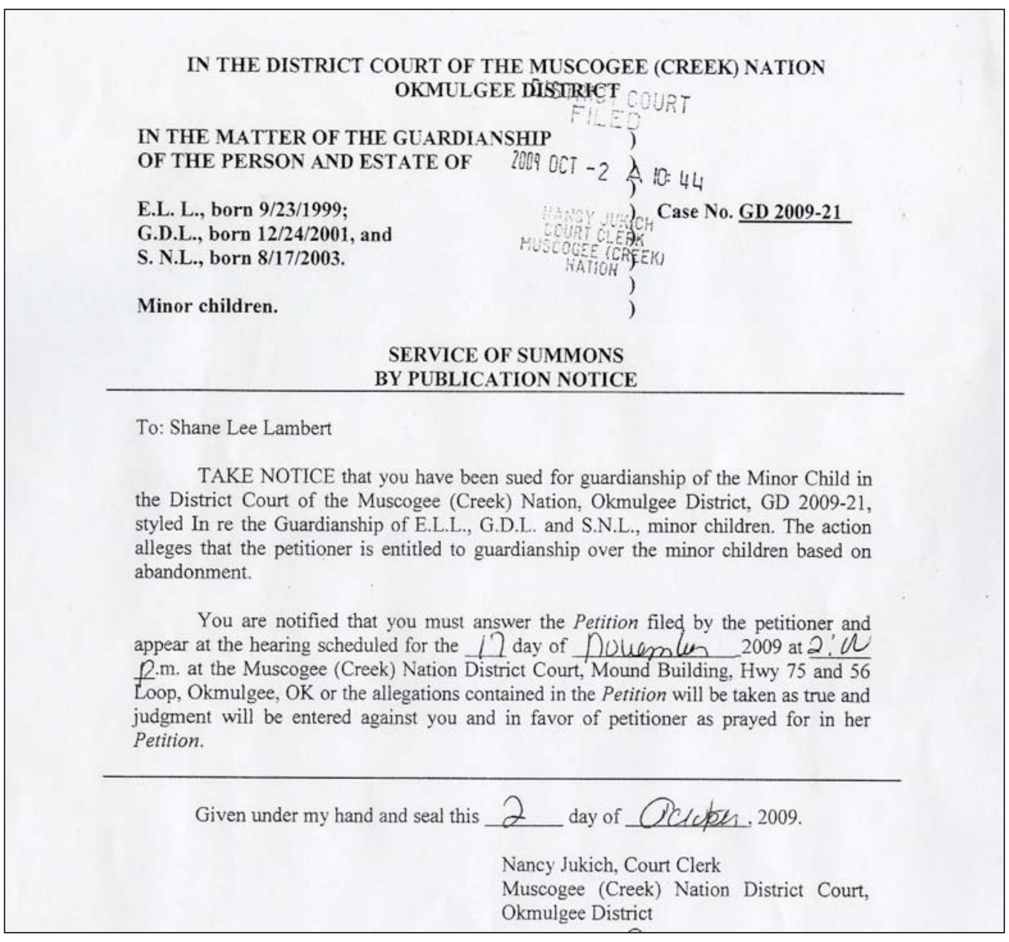
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO: Whom it may concern

Roger Dana Barnett and Stephanie Lee Good Voice, for their minor child, A.O.B., born April 29, 2006 have filed a *Petition* in the above Court to have their minor child's name changed and the same will be heard in the courtroom of Judge Patrick E. Moore, located in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Hwy 75 and Loop 56, on the 15 day of December, 2009 at 2:00 o'clock p m, or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 5 day of October, 2009

COURT CLERK
Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Oklahoma

By
Deputy



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED 2009 OCT -2 A 10:44 NANCY JUKICH COURT CLERK MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP
OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE OF

E.L. L., born 9/23/1999;
G.D.L., born 12/24/2001, and
S. N.L., born 8/17/2003.

Minor children.

Case No. GD 2009-21

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

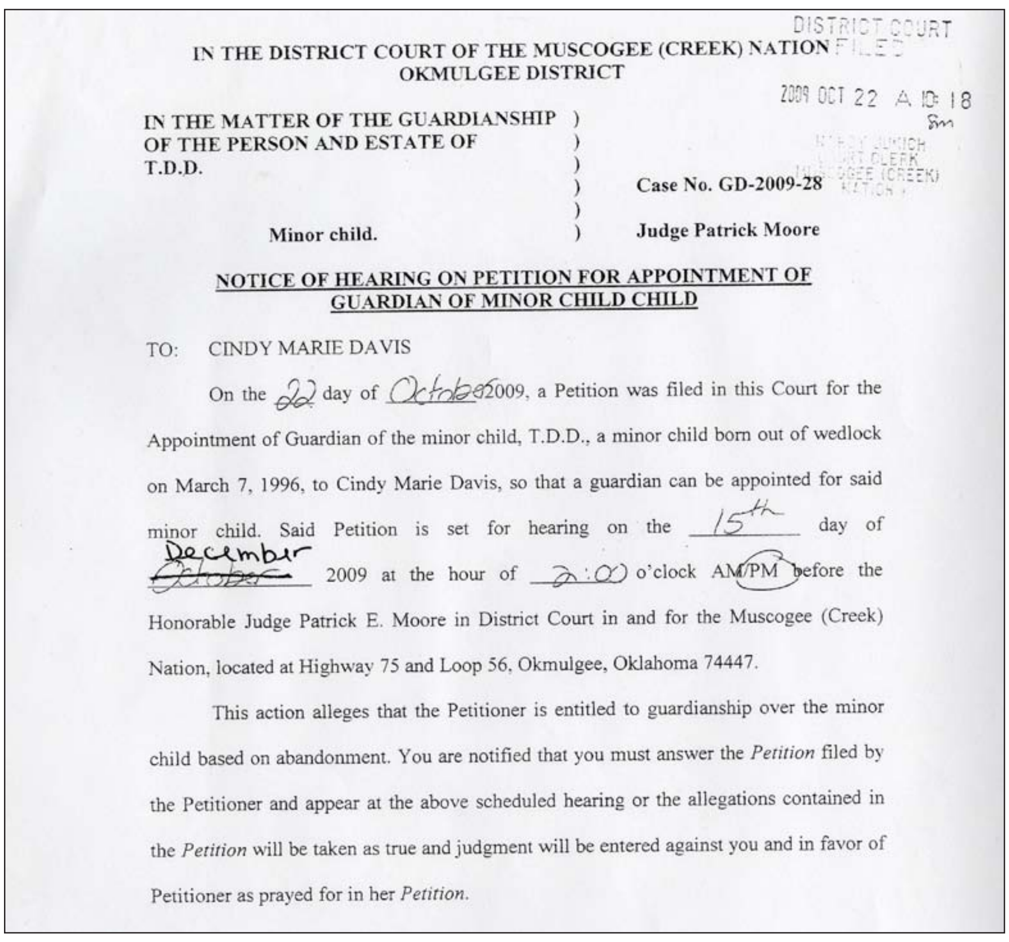
To: Shane Lee Lambert

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship of the Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD 2009-21, styled In re the Guardianship of E.L.L., G.D.L. and S.N.L., minor children. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to guardianship over the minor children based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner and appear at the hearing scheduled for the 17 day of November 2009 at 2:00 p.m. at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Mound Building, Hwy 75 and 56 Loop, Okmulgee, OK or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 2 day of October, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED 2009 OCT 22 A 10:18 sm NANCY JUKICH COURT CLERK MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP
OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE OF
T.D.D.

Minor child.

Case No. GD-2009-28

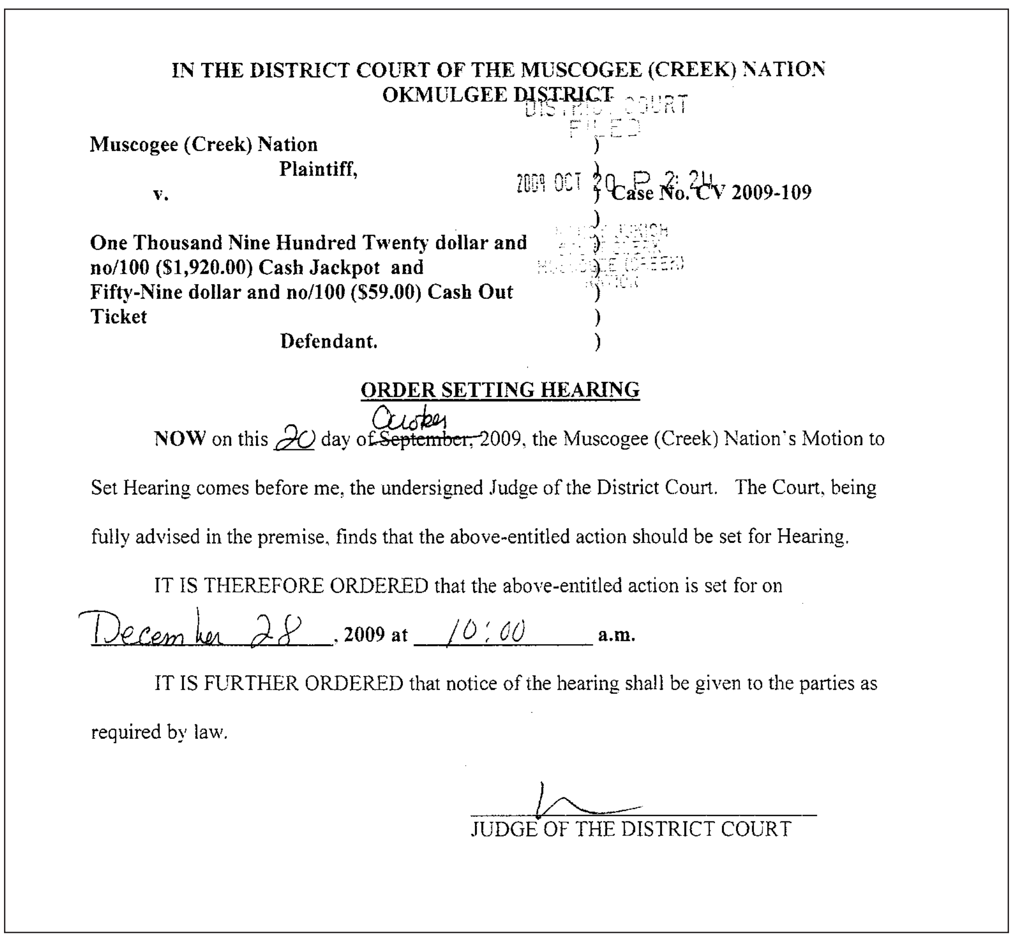
Judge Patrick Moore

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN OF MINOR CHILD CHILD

TO: CINDY MARIE DAVIS

On the 22 day of October 2009, a Petition was filed in this Court for the Appointment of Guardian of the minor child, T.D.D., a minor child born out of wedlock on March 7, 1996, to Cindy Marie Davis, so that a guardian can be appointed for said minor child. Said Petition is set for hearing on the 15th day of December ~~October~~ 2009 at the hour of 2:00 o'clock AM/[✓ PM] before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in District Court in and for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, located at Highway 75 and Loop 56, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447.

This action alleges that the Petitioner is entitled to guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment. You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioner and appear at the above scheduled hearing or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED 2009 OCT 20 P 2:24 NANCY JUKICH COURT CLERK MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Plaintiff,
v.

One Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty dollar and no/100 ($1,920.00) Cash Jackpot and Fifty-Nine dollar and no/100 ($59.00) Cash Out Ticket
Defendant.

Case No. CV 2009-109

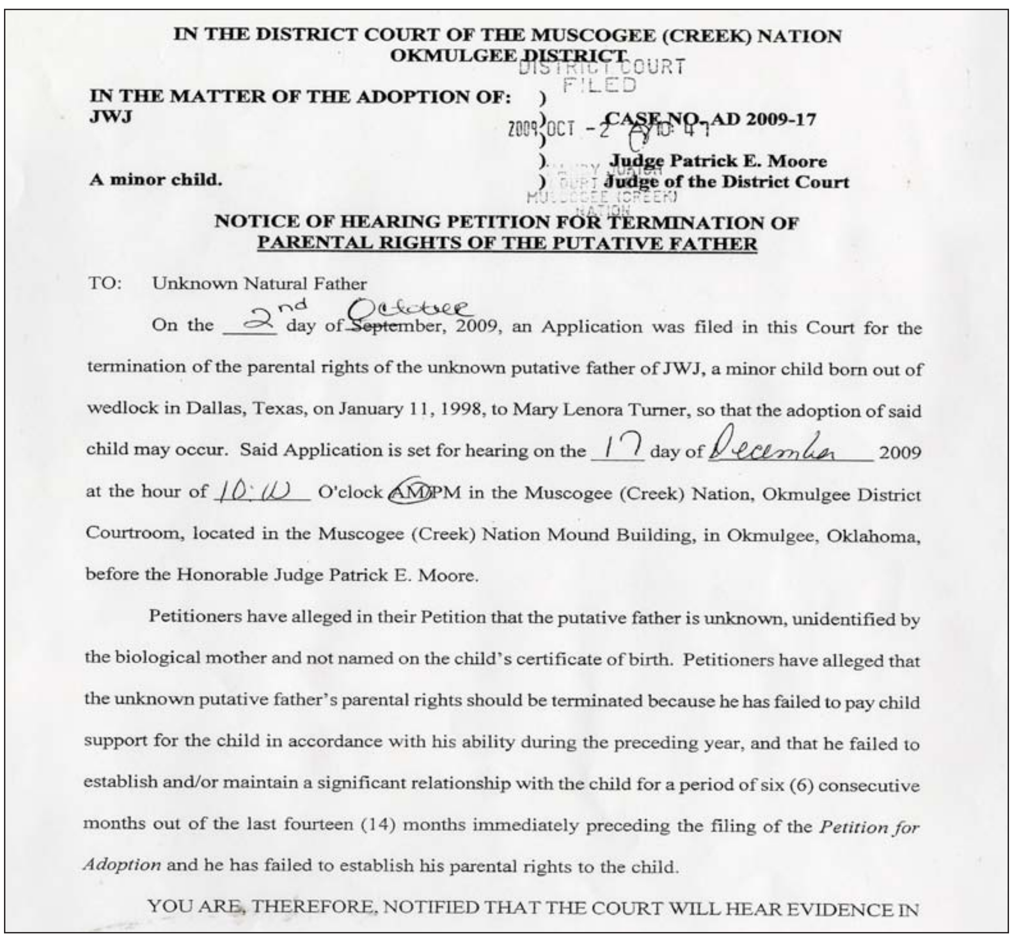
ORDER SETTING HEARING

NOW on this 20 day of October ~~September,~~ 2009, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Motion to Set Hearing comes before me, the undersigned Judge of the District Court. The Court, being fully advised in the premise, finds that the above-entitled action should be set for Hearing.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the above-entitled action is set for on December 28, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that notice of the hearing shall be given to the parties as required by law.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED 2009 OCT -2 A 10:41 NANCY JUKICH COURT CLERK MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF:
JWJ

A minor child.

CASE NO. AD 2009-17
Judge Patrick E. Moore
Judge of the District Court

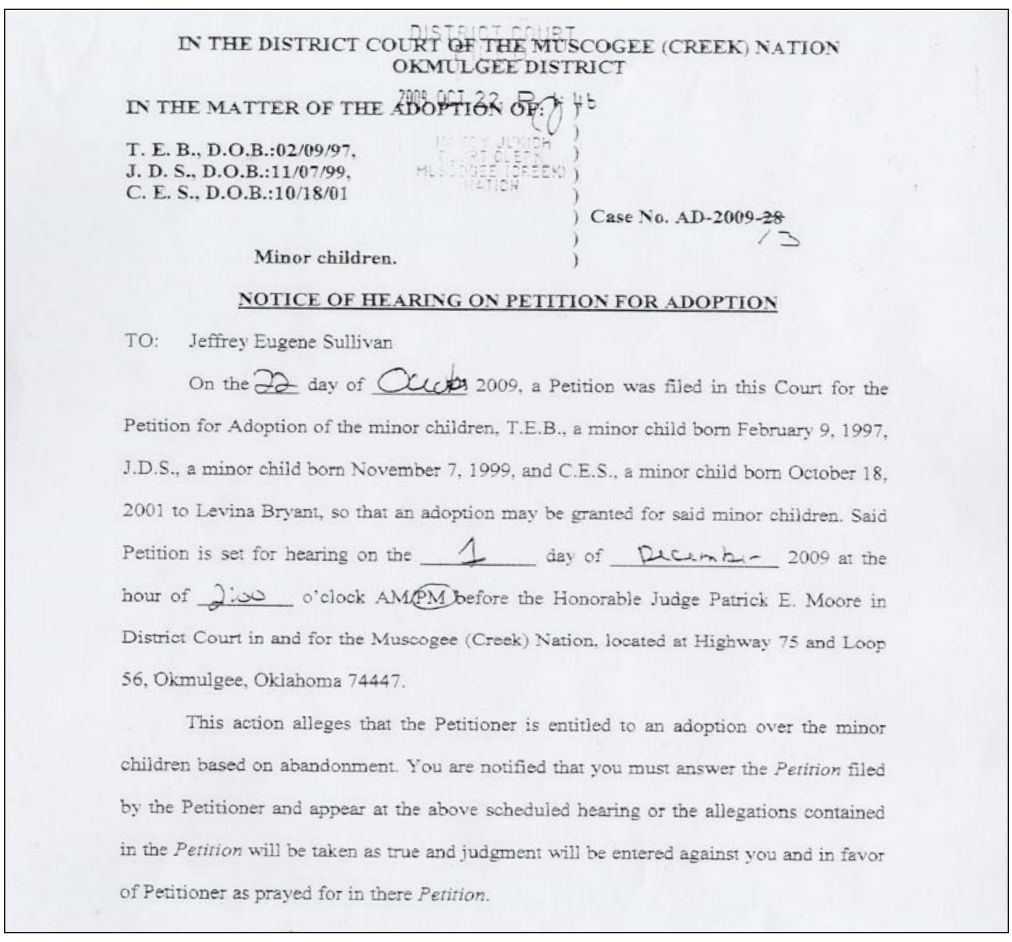
NOTICE OF HEARING PETITION FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS OF THE PUTATIVE FATHER

TO: Unknown Natural Father

On the 2nd day of October ~~September~~, 2009, an Application was filed in this Court for the termination of the parental rights of the unknown putative father of JWJ, a minor child born out of wedlock in Dallas, Texas, on January 11, 1998, to Mary Lenora Turner, so that the adoption of said child may occur. Said Application is set for hearing on the 17 day of December 2009 at the hour of 10:00 O'clock [✓ AM]/PM in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District Courtroom, located in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound Building, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore.

Petitioners have alleged in their Petition that the putative father is unknown, unidentified by the biological mother and not named on the child's certificate of birth. Petitioners have alleged that the unknown putative father's parental rights should be terminated because he has failed to pay child support for the child in accordance with his ability during the preceding year, and that he failed to establish and/or maintain a significant relationship with the child for a period of six (6) consecutive months out of the last fourteen (14) months immediately preceding the filing of the *Petition for Adoption* and he has failed to establish his parental rights to the child.

YOU ARE, THEREFORE, NOTIFIED THAT THE COURT WILL HEAR EVIDENCE IN



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED 2009 OCT 22 P 1:46 NANCY JUKICH COURT CLERK MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF:

T. E. B., D.O.B.:02/09/97,
J. D. S., D.O.B.:11/07/99,
C. E. S., D.O.B.:10/18/01

Minor children.

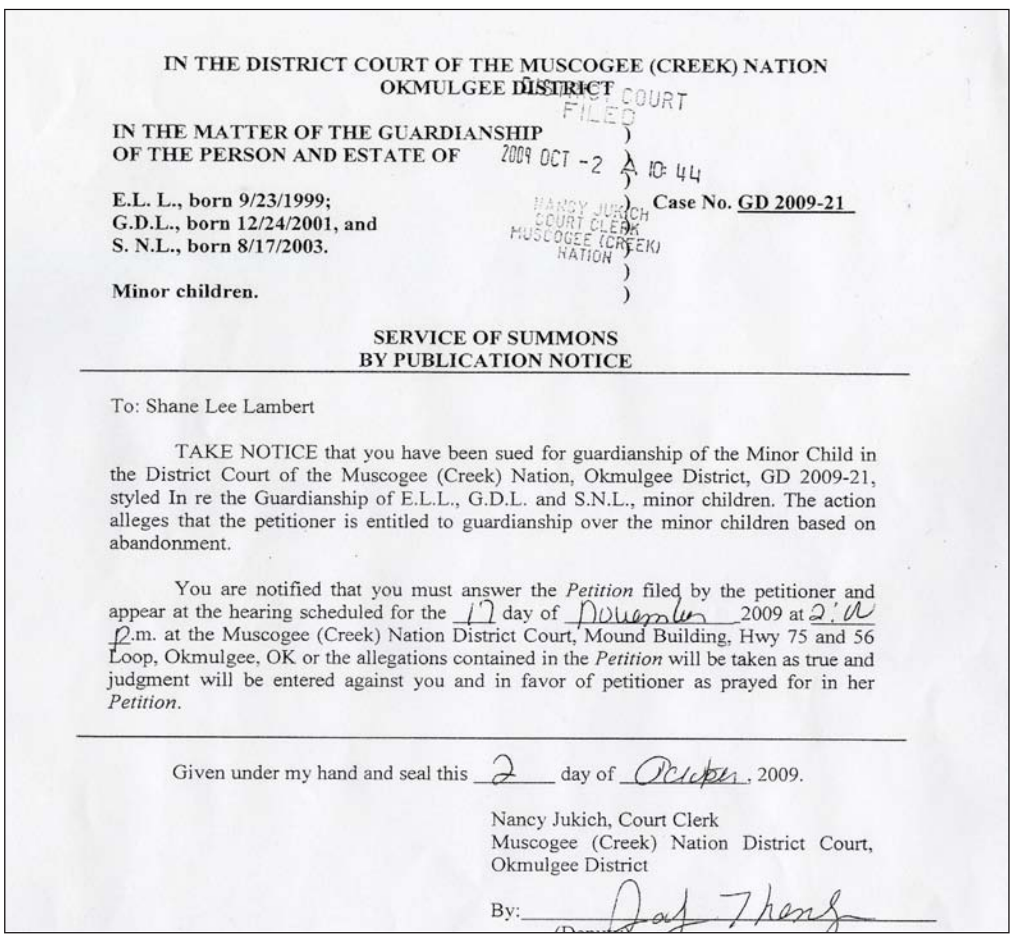
Case No. AD-2009-~~28~~ 13

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR ADOPTION

TO: Jeffrey Eugene Sullivan

On the 22 day of October 2009, a Petition was filed in this Court for the Petition for Adoption of the minor children, T.E.B., a minor child born February 9, 1997, J.D.S., a minor child born November 7, 1999, and C.E.S., a minor child born October 18, 2001 to Levina Bryant, so that an adoption may be granted for said minor children. Said Petition is set for hearing on the 1 day of December 2009 at the hour of 2:00 o'clock AM/[✓ PM] before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in District Court in and for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, located at Highway 75 and Loop 56, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447.

This action alleges that the Petitioner is entitled to an adoption over the minor children based on abandonment. You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioner and appear at the above scheduled hearing or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioner as prayed for in there *Petition*.



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT FILED 2009 OCT -2 A 10:44 NANCY JUKICH COURT CLERK MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP
OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE OF

E.L. L., born 9/23/1999;
G.D.L., born 12/24/2001, and
S. N.L., born 8/17/2003.

Minor children.

Case No. GD 2009-21

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

To: Shane Lee Lambert

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for guardianship of the Minor Child in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, GD 2009-21, styled In re the Guardianship of E.L.L., G.D.L. and S.N.L., minor children. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to guardianship over the minor children based on abandonment.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner and appear at the hearing scheduled for the 17 day of November 2009 at 2:00 p.m. at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Mound Building, Hwy 75 and 56 Loop, Okmulgee, OK or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 2 day of October, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By:

This one's for the girls

• River Spirit presents $13,721 check to Girls Inc.

RIVER SPIRIT
10/06/2009
GIRLS INC.
$13,721 00
Thirteen Thousand, Seven Hundred, Twenty-One
Giving Power, Getting Rewards

River Spirit/*Tiffany Ellis*

Pictured above are staff of the River Spirit Casino who recently presented a check for Girls, Inc., in the amount of $13,721.00. The staff in the photograph were responsible for raising the funds.

RIVER SPIRIT Casino

TULSA – On October 6, 2009 River Spirit Casino presented a check for $13,721 to Girls Inc., of Tulsa County. This presentation was a celebration of the Casino's contribution to the organization and took place at 3 p.m., in Mystic River Lounge.

The Girls Inc. of Tulsa County's mission is "To inspire girls to be strong, smart, and bold." With this mission in mind River Spirit Casino fashioned an opportunity for guests of the casino to give a donation to the Girls Inc., cause through the "Giving Power, Getting Rewards" promotion. Casino guests could donate $10 or more to Girls Inc., and receive $10 in Rewards Play on their Infinity Card, which is the name of the Players Club card at River Spirit Casino.

"To be able to assist in raising money for such an incredible local organization is very meaningful to River Spirit Casino and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation," stated Tiffany Ellis, Public Relations Manager for River Spirit Casino.

For more information on Girls Inc., of Tulsa County, please visit their web site at www.girlsinctulsa.org

River Spirit/*Tiffany Ellis*

Fountainhead Creek Golf Course spruces up

• New irrigation systems and reconstructed front nine

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

MNN/*Mallory Bible*

Pictured above are staff members of the Fountainhead Creek Golf Course showcasing one of the newly remodeled greens. The course held an open house Friday, Oct. 23, 2009 and provided a guided tour of the recently completed work.

> *"...The development of the Fountainhead area is going to be an asset. A lot of recreation and beautiful scenery will make it a place for people to come and enjoy themselves."*
> - Cherokee Hicks, Director of Tourism and Recreation

EUFAULA — Acknowledged as a "challenging course with tight fairways and turns," members at golflink.com went on to describe Fountainhead Creek Golf Course as an "overall great find which will be stellar when completed." The recent open house was held as a progress report which consisted of a guided tour that highlighted the recent improvements to the front nine.

The most extensive improvements made so far could be one of the least visible. The water system underwent dramatic changes with the installation of piping and watering heads throughout. Hole 3 is likely to be the most dramatic improvement to course. From the beginning to end, this hole underwent a complete re-build and will likely be the course's signature hole.

Other holes on the front nine had been replanted earlier in the year. During the summer months planting took place in order to best take advantage of the rainy season. The fruit of the labor has become gorgeously rich greens which are properly irrigated and watered which is a huge stride for the golf course as a whole. This new construction has worked marvels for the once neglected and dilapidated course. It is a glimpse into the potential this area holds not only to attract golf enthusiasts but for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to be an active contributor in the recreation and tourism industry in Oklahoma.

Designed by Floyd Farley, ASGCA, the Fountainhead Golf Course opened in 1968. For several years the course was run by the state with little opportunity for upgrading and a tight maintenance budget. When the MCN invested in the course, there was much work to be done. This opening marked a half way point of early reconstruction. While there is still much work to do the fundamental improvements are impressionable.

Local business leaders and council representatives where invited to see the remarkable transformation. Guided tours took place, in which guests braved the chill to get a first hand look at these invested improvements.

Despite the major reconstructive projects taking place throughout the summer, the FGC was able to meet membership goals as well.

General Manager and Golf Pro, J.D. Winkle developed a campaign to increase membership and win back the local golfing community. In meeting his membership goal, Winkle was able to rekindle the interest of many of the loyal patrons of Fountainhead Creek.

Winkle hasn't slowed down since meeting that membership goal. "The man is a whiz, with tournament organization," said Michael Wisner, CEO of the Muscogee (Creek) Nations Trade & Commerce.

Another contributing factor to the success of the course is the partnerships which were created between area schools, and FCG. The driving range and putting green have been a prime practice locations for high school golf programs.

Since the Muscogee (Creek) Nation made its acquisition of the golf course, the momentum of progress has been steadfast. The conditions upon purchase lacked something to be desired, and the refurbishment proved to be an investment for the future success of the course.

Some business decision geared toward future investment helped to facilitate the renovations. When considering the budgets for the improvements, the economic conditions and the scope of work to be done, it was sometimes a wise choice for equipment to be purchased rather than leased. In 2008, when the planning took place for the work, the economy had made such a nose dive that Wisner and colleagues found the more economical choice was to purchase out right certain heavy equipment, which served the purpose of the work and establishing equity.

If you find yourself looking for that perfect stretch of green to spend a day, this 18 hole, par 72 course offers oversize bent grass greens, Bermuda grass tees and fairways, water hazards, well-placed sand bunkers, lake views and watchable wildlife and could be just the place to take a family, enjoy some active entertainment with friends or a peaceful solo golfing expedition.

Facilities include a putting green, driving range, and pro shop with cart and club rentals, snacks and drinks. The Pro-shop carries major golf brands and are available for tournament outings. Private or group lessons are available and an airstrip is located nearby. Recreation and RV camping is also available at nearby Lake Eufaula State Park.

Special rates are offered for Muscogee (Creek) citizens and senior citizens. .

For more information, contact the office at the Fountianhead Creek Golf Course at (918) 689-3209 or toll free at (866) 602-4653.

November is national Diabetes Awareness month

Aundra Peters, RN, BSN, CFCN
Okemah Diabetes Program

OKMULGEE — November is American Diabetes month-a time to acquaint or re-acquaint ourselves with a serious disease that can lead to life-threatening complications.

According to the Center's for Disease Control, 23.6 million or 7.8% of the population have diabetes. Data from the 2005 Indian Health Service (IHS) user population database indicate that 14.2% of the American Indians and Alaska Natives aged 20 years or older, who received care from IHS, had been diagnosed with diabetes. If these trends continue, one out of every three children born today will face a future with diabetes.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System diabetes program trends indicate that the number of persons with diabetes in MCN in 1999 was 2,585 and the number increased to 4,236 in 2009. The "good" control indicator of diabetes, hemoglobin A1C, for MCN in 1999 was 19% and increased to 52% in 2009. This number indicates that providing standard care and self-management education can help control diabetes.

The MCNHS diabetes program is a grant-funded program that provides a full-range of services to diabetes patients in the Muscogee Nation. The goals of the Diabetes Prevention and Management Program include preventing the onset of diabetes, diagnosing diabetes early, and promoting health in persons with type 2 diabetes, preventing or delaying the complications of diabetes and identifying complications in the early stages.

These goals are being accomplished in a great part by the Creek Citizens with diabetes who have learned to be a partner in their care. As partners they participate with a team of nurses, doctors, dietitians, exercise managers, optometrist, and dentists to maintain their health through regular follow up at the clinics.

Many Creek Citizens with diabetes are successful in staying healthy by learning about diabetes with the Diabetes Education Team. The educators teach diabetes self-management, blood-glucose monitoring, hypertension class, lowering your lipids, healthy heart and medical nutrition therapy.

Photo courtesy of MCN Diabetes Programs

Pictured above are participants in the Nene Hvkoce "Walking Program" who participate in a 5K run/walk each year as part of their activities to keep MCN citizens healthy and diabetes-free.

Persons with diabetes can delay or avoid the complications of diabetes. Current data from the MCN Healthy Heart Program shows that 27% of participants have achieved healthy levels in all these risk factors. These include blood sugar, blood pressure, good and bad cholesterol, triglycerides, waist size and weight. This is good news. It is also a fact that 25% of all persons diagnosed with diabetes, also have depression. Depression can interfere with treating diabetes, therefore, all persons are screened for depression at their yearly exam and can be referred to a family therapist if needed.

The foot care program at MCNHS also helps to prevent complications by reducing the risk of amputations. Nurses with specialized training in foot care perform assessments, nail/callous care, and refers clients to appropriate services for the diabetic foot. The Diabetes Grant Program and the Tribal Program, "Pedorthics, Orthotics, Prosthetics, Podiatry and other Services" (POPPS) work to help Creek citizens maintain independence and health. The POPPS funds are used as priority funds for Creeks with diabetes within or outside of the Creek jurisdiction if they are seen in the MCNHS clinics.

Diabetes can be avoided or delayed. This news gives us the greatest hope in beating diabetes. The Muscogee Creek tribal leaders are taking the lead on getting prevention started. Communities, schools and organizations in the Creek jurisdiction are taking advantage of tribally-funded prevention programs. The Diabetes Program's Exercise Managers work with the tribe to provide these programs. They include: 1) family programs: the Nene Hvkoce walking program; 2) Youth programs: the Hop to Stop Diabetes jump rope, the PRIDE Summer Day Camps, the Move It and Prevent Diabetes elementary school program; and 4) Elders programs: Vculvke PRIDE exercise and education programs in partnership with the Elderly Nutrition Programs.

Individuals and Creek communities can help neighbors make the healthy eating and physical activity changes a permanent part of their every day life. As a TEAM we all can play a part in preventing diabetes and reducing the risk for complications.

For more information regarding the diabetes programs call your local office in Okemah, Koweta, Okmulgee, Sapulpa, or Eufaula.

Managing diabetes: It's not easy, but it's worth it

Johnnie Brasuell, MSN, ARNP, CDE
MCN Diabetes Program Coordinator

OKMULGEE — If you have diabetes, you know the day-to-day steps needed to manage diabetes can be hard. Diabetes can lead to serious health problems, such as blindness, loss of limb, kidney failure, heart disease, and early death. Managing diabetes can be easier if you set goals and make a plan.

People who keep their A1C below 7 in the early years after they are diagnosed with diabetes have fewer problems with their eyes, nerves, and kidneys, and have fewer heart attacks later in life. Your A1C measures your blood glucose (blood sugar) over time. Most people, especially those who have just been diagnosed, should aim for an A1C of less than 7. If you have had diabetes for a long time, have other health problems, or have problems with low blood sugar, your A1C target may be higher than 7. Talk with your health care team about your blood glucose targets. Yours may be different from others.

Diabetes management is not just about your blood glucose. Keeping your blood pressure and cholesterol under control can lower your risk for heart attack and stroke as well as other diabetes problems. Take your medicines that are working to control blood pressure and cholesterol. Talk with your health care team about taking control of your blood pressure and cholesterol.

Managing diabetes isn't easy, but it's worth it. The National Diabetes Education Program (NDEP) offers tips to help. The first step is to set a goal for yourself. Choose something that is important to you and that you believe you can do. Then make a plan by choosing the small steps you will take For example, start working towards getting 30 minutes of physical activity, such as brisk walking, most days of the week. If you have not been very active in the past, start slowly and try adding a few minutes each day. Ask others for help with your plan.

NDEP has free resources that can help. For more information on managing diabetes, order a free copy of 4 Steps to Control Your Diabetes. For Life. from the National Diabetes Education Program at www.YourDiabetesInfo.org or call 1-888-693-NDEP (6337); TTY: 1-866-569-1162.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' National Diabetes Education Program is jointly sponsored by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with the support of more than 200 partner organizations.

NDEP's Control Your Diabetes For Life campaign seeks to reach the nearly 24 million Americans with diabetes, and their families, with messages about the seriousness of diabetes, ways to control the disease, and the benefits of controlling diabetes for life.

Pink

Continued from A1

Gilbert shared her journey as a survivor of breast cancer with the record crowd. An incredible woman with an inspirational tale of fighting for her life, Gilbert has dedicated her life to advocacy for better health care particularly for the Native populations.

Through her work with the Healthy Alaska Natives Foundation, Alaska Native Health Consortium and the American Cancer Society, she works to raise awareness and respond to critical challenges health systems face today.

Her story was eye opening . She was diagnosed at a young age. In her early thirties she was given a gloomy prognosis of a year to live and had to endure a bilateral mastectomy.

Gilbert had to come to terms with losing both her breasts. As part of her presentation, she shared creative photographs which where a part of her emotional journey.

While going through chemotheraphy, she was told that she would never have children. Frightening oversights and cutting, which took place during her bilateral mastectomy resulted in a painful staph infection which required the removal of even more tissue on her chest. "This is when I discovered my purpose. I knew was to become an advocate," said Gilbert. She took her experiences to the public in order to help others who were at the mercy of the health care system.

Gilbert went on to recovery fully from cancer, and now works endlessly to bring accountability to health care systems. Despite enduring the most traumatic experience a woman can be faced with, Gilbert trudged on and met the man she married. During the process of her reconstructive surgery, she and her husband were delighted to find out that they were going to be parents.

Gilbert is now a mother of two, who works diligently in the non-profit organization industry. Her presentation educated women, comforted those fighting cancer, and inspired survivors.

HEALTHNOTES

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi commits to protecting Indian Health Service

Media Release
National Congress of American Indians

PALM SPRINGS, Cali., — In a letter to delegates to the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) 66th Annual Convention, Speaker of the House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi wrote, "As we prepare the American Affordable Health Choices Act for consideration by the full House, we must ensure that the President's promising of preserving an individual's health care of choice includes the Indian health delivery system."

In the letter, Pelosi also commended tribal leaders for "working closely with the committees and the Obama administration to ensure that the health delivery system that was guaranteed to American Indians and Alaska Natives through treaty rights is not inadvertently harmed."

"For the Speaker of the House to recognize that Native people must have the choice to receive health care through the Indian health delivery system is a big win for Indian Country and the health of our people," said NCAI President Joe A. Garcia. "I commend Speaker Pelosi for her commitment to the health and well-being of Native Americans. I am confident the House will follow the Speaker's lead and ensure our concerns are considered as they debate this historic legislation."

"We cannot ask Indian people to be penalized for choosing to use the Indian health care system," said Pelosi. "The House bill will ensure that the exemption from the financial penalties is extended to federally recognized tribes and that tribally provided health care benefits are appropriately protected."

Pelosi also said it is essential that the Congress focus on improving the health and wellness of Indian Country. "That is why health reform legislation must ensure that adequate funds are made available to tribes to stamp out preventable illness and conditions that are having a devastating impact in your communities, such as diabetes," she said.

"While many elements of the health care reform bill are vital to Indian Country, Congress also recognizes the importance of passing the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, and I pledge to continue working with you toward that goal."

Diabetes Awareness Summit boasts successful third year

Sandra Peters
MCN Health Systems Communications

OKMULGEE — "HEALTH IS HARMONY IN MIND, BODY, SPIRIT AND EMOTION" was the main topic at the third annual Diabetes Awareness Summit August 20-21, 2009 held at the First Baptist Church in Okmulgee.

The agenda included the most comprehensive information on how to deal effectively with diabetes. Johnnie Brasuell, Coordinator of the Diabetes Program and her staff were very successful in producing a conference that leveled the focus on diabetes while improving your physical, spiritual and emotional health.

Among the keynote speakers were Donald Warne, MD, who spoke on how the world views the impact of diabetes. He addressed both the traditional and modern lifestyle approach in restoring balance and health. Hovering close to the theme Vicky Karhu, B.S., initiated traditional foods into her topic relating that the Mvskoke people have a rich heritage in the field of agriculture. Singling out the ability of the Tribe to reconnect with traditional foods for improved physical health, she set up a booth also showcasing a veritable garden of information. Giving away packets of seeds and herbs and a booth decorated with colorful pictures of MSFI Outreach and "In the Field" information, she mentioned the Community Garden available at the Council House Square. The gardens produce is set up during the week for customers with a desire to purchase the freshest fruits and vegetables, and I might add they are delicious!

In the area of cardiovascular exercise "In the Zone" with Taylor Thompson B/S/ AND Duane Meadows, M.ED/ CI-CPT along with Kimberlee Little M.S., Ed. CI-CPT, "Power Up" were able to help attendees identify examples of cardiovascular exercise, how to identify your target heart rate zone and strength training safety. These sessions along with health walks gave the participants a "real hands" on activity.

Dr. Arne Vainio, M.D. speaking on one of his two sessions zeroed in on "Preserving Harmony While Facing the Risk and Care of Diabetes" by identifying attitudes that keep American Indian men from seeking preventive care. These psychological issues also acknowledged barriers in the American Indian experience that interfered with accepting diagnosis and clinical care of diabetes.

Kelly Moore, M.D., lectured on "What's new in the Treatment of Diabetes", by listing 2 new medications for controlling blood sugar and at least one treatment for problems associated with diabetes such as hypertension, obesity, cholesterol, painful neuropathy, and sleep apnea. It was good to see that she was again accompanied by her 91 year old father, Edwin Stanton Moore, who was with her at last years Summit also.

One of the most bittersweet sessions was from Darryl Tonemah, PhD, who chose as two of his topics, "Restoring Harmony by Caring for Your Emotions" and "Maintaining Family Health and Harmony When a Member Has Diabetes". He recalled the life of his family members, the humorous accounts of their colorful lives and the emotions he felt as he witnessed their deaths from diabetes. He gave three points to weight loss which were cutting meals one-half, basically satisfying only your hunger and recognizing what hunger really is. Darryl's emphasis was on prevention and his topic reminded us to act today to prevent the increase of diabetes in Native American People tomorrow.

Scott Robinson, M.ED.CI-CPT, introduced "Diabetes Challenge Bowl" which was a review of knowledge gained during the day. Scott participated with attendees using an electronic game activity to provide answers to questions related to the summit. He kept movement fun letting participants experience different non-traditional ways of being physically active which can be used within a family or community gatherings.

For those fluent in the Mvskoke Language, Irene Culley, B.S.ED., C.P.T., delivered her information in her Native Tongue. She identified two risk factors for type 2 diabetes. She stated condition in type 2 diabetes that may lead to complications and actions a person can take at home to know that your diabetes is in control. She in worked in a session with William Fixico B.S., CI-CPT, teaching the history of the Mvskoke game of stick ball, the rules that identify the game and main theme of being physically active during your life.

There were other breakout sessions which included information from Okcate Smith, B.A. and Ben Yahola, using drama to express emotions while living with diabetes. Donna Tall Bear, M.S., C.H.E.S. demonstrated basic hatha yoga postures, pramayama breathing techniques and the flexibility benefits of yoga for both mind and body.

Tom Moore, M.A. Theo., M.A.C.P., related spiritual stories and their relation to health perspectives. Will Hill entertained with his "Legends" during the lunch break.

An important session, given by Ryan Brown, M.D. was "What is New, What is Working to Prevent Diabetes in Our Youth". Zeroing in on signs and symptoms of pre-diabetes with an emphasis on helping young children and adolescents make healthy choices he drove home the reasons for always being aware of the future consequences of unhealthy living.

Tobacco Prevention expands SWAT

• Program to extend $1,000 to MCN Communities

MCN/*Casandra Thompson*

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program hosts events throughout the year where youth can learn about the harmful effects of commercial tobacco use. This past summer, participants attended a OKC Redhawks baseball game.

by Cassandra Thompson
MCN Tobacco Prevention

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation (MCN) Tobacco Prevention Program (TPP) is extending an invitation to join us on our mission to create a healthy traditional lifestyle in our communities. Our vision is to eliminate commercial tobacco abuse for all Oklahoma American Indian/ Alaska Natives and educate our younger generation on traditional tobacco use. The MCN SWAT has grown since it began in June 2008 and so has the interest among youth and parents.

We are offering mini-grants in the amount of $l,000 per community to start a Native American youth led organization called Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT). SWAT's mission is to unite and empower youth to resist and expose Tobacco Companies' (Big Tobacco) lies while changing the current attitudes about tobacco. There are over 120 active SWAT teams (ranging from 2 to 40 youth per team) across Oklahoma.

MCN SWAT is unique because it is a Native American youth-led organization and educates the Native American communities about the difference between commercial tobacco and traditional tobacco. Through meetings, trainings and events, youth are empowered. To make positive choices, learn about their history and culture, and gain confidence to encourage others to do the same.

If your community or an adult individual is passionate about making a difference for a healthier nation, enjoys working with youth, they may contact the office for a grant application for more information. Deadline for grant applications is Dec.1, 2009, at 5 p.m.

Applications may be mailed, e-mailed, or faxed. Each grantee will be notified by Dec. 11, 2009. Following the awards of the grant an adult partner (adult representative of community) meeting will be set.

If you have any questions or want MCN TPP to present MCN SWAT goals and objectives for your community before the grant application deadline, you may call or stop by the MCN TPP at (918)-623-1189.

TREATING
DRUG & ALCOHOL ABUSE
IN ADULTS

Best clinical practices in the dignity & respect of tribal tradition.
Specializing in painkiller & meth addictions

Keetoowah Cherokee
Treatment Services
Tulsa
918-835-3017
kctxs.com

Quapaw Counseling Services
Oklahoma City
405-672-3033
qcs-okc.com

Miami
918-542-1786
quapawcounselingservices.com

PROGRAMNOTES

MCN Finance and Credit offices have moved to Housing Building

Media Release
MCN Finance Department

OKMULGEE — The following offices have been relocated on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation complex.

Consumer Loans has moved to the Housing Building and is now located on the second floor. Patsy Fish may be reached at (918) 759-4182 and Ray Scott at (918) 759-4183.

Valerie Williams, Community Finance Officer, has also moved to the second floor and may be reached at (918) 759-4180.

Shawna Robbins, Internal Auditor, is also located on the second floor and may be reached at (918) 759-4180.

MCN Social Services
Field Schedule

NOVEMBER 2009

Field Site	Location	Date
Coweta	Community Center 9:30 am – 11:00 am	2nd Tuesday of month
Glenpool	Community Center 8:30 – 9:30 am	3rd Wednesday of month
Bristow	Community Center 9:30 am – 11:00 am	2nd Thursday of month
Eufaula	Community Center 9:30 am – 11:00 am	3rd Tuesday of month
Sapulpa	Community Center 10:00 am – 12:00 pm	3rd Wednesday of month
Checotah	Community Center 9:30 am – 11:00 am	3rd Thursday of month
Weleetka	Community Center 11:00 am – 12:00 pm	4th Tuesday of month
Okemah	Community Center 9:00 am – 10:00 am	4th Tuesday of month
Holdenville	Community Center 9:30 am – 11:00 am	4th Monday of month

Social Services field schedule coincides with Food Distribution's.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation
School Clothing Assistance Program
Receipt DO'S and DON'TS

DO: **Turn in receipts within 90 days of the check issuance date.**

Turn in ALL ORIGINAL receipts.

Turn in receipts that total the amount of your check.

Legibly print parents name, child's name and your phone number on the back of each receipt.

Make sure all receipts are dated AFTER the check issuance date.

Make sure all receipts have a date printed on them.

DON'T: **Turn in receipts late.**

Cut the date off of the receipts.

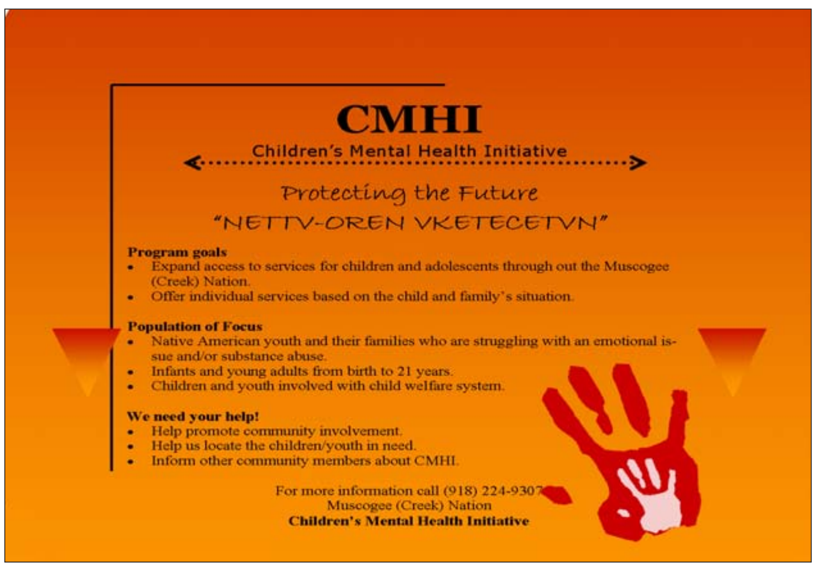
Write or mark on the front of the receipts.

Turn in only partial receipts.

Combine clothing purchases on the same receipts that you purchase other items on. Clothing items should be all that is on the receipts.

Send cash, check, money orders or coins, etc. in with your receipts.

For questions or additional information, contact:
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
School Clothing Program
918-756-2024 or 800-482-1979



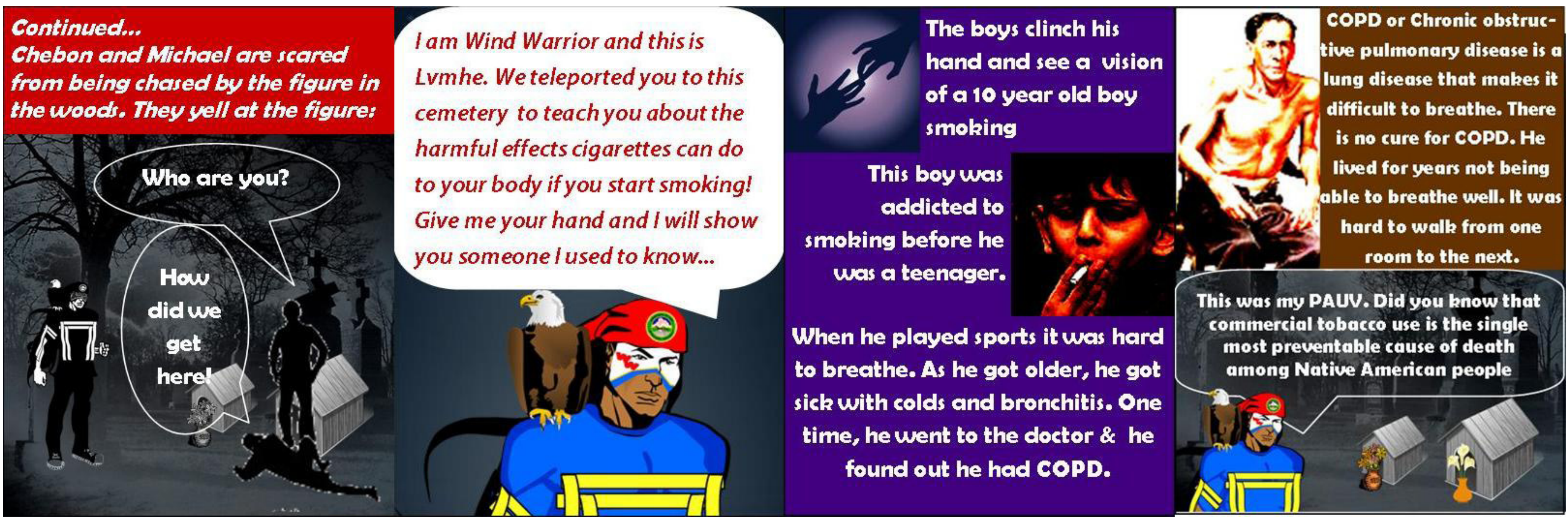
CMHI
Children's Mental Health Initiative
Protecting the Future
"NETTV-OREN VKETECETVN"

Program goals
- Expand access to services for children and adolescents through out the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.
- Offer individual services based on the child and family's situation.

Population of Focus
- Native American youth and their families who are struggling with an emotional issue and/or substance abuse.
- Infants and young adults from birth to 21 years.
- Children and youth involved with child welfare system.

We need your help!
- Help promote community involvement.
- Help us locate the children/youth in need.
- Inform other community members about CMHI.

For more information call (918) 224-9307
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Children's Mental Health Initiative

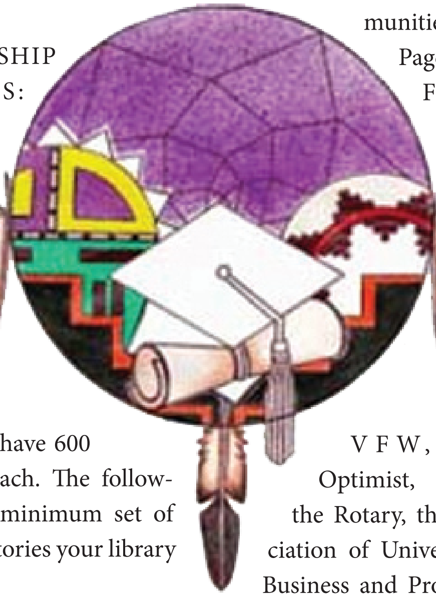

Continued...
Chebon and Michael are scared from being chased by the figure in the woods. They yell at the figure:
Who are you?
How did we get here!
I am Wind Warrior and this is Lvmhe. We teleported you to this cemetery to teach you about the harmful effects cigarettes can do to your body if you start smoking! Give me your hand and I will show you someone I used to know...
The boys clinch his hand and see a vision of a 10 year old boy smoking
This boy was addicted to smoking before he was a teenager.
When he played sports it was hard to breathe. As he got older, he got sick with colds and bronchitis. One time, he went to the doctor & he found out he had COPD.
COPD or Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease is a lung disease that makes it difficult to breathe. There is no cure for COPD. He lived for years not being able to breathe well. It was hard to walk from one room to the next.
This was my PAUV. Did you know that commercial tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of death among Native American people

How to find and win scholarships

• Part II: A breakdown of the application process

by Dean Chavers, Ph. D.
Catching the Dream

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M., — Catching the Dream, formerly known as the Native American Scholarship Fund, makes grants to Native college students and works to improve Indian schools. Since 1986, CTD has made scholarship awards to 920 students and has produced 596 graduates.



SCHOLARSHIP DIRECTORIES: There are over 700 scholarship directories published in the U. S. However, you want to use the most comprehensive ones, which have 600 to 1,200 pages each. The following constitute a minimum set of scholarship directories your library should have:

- Daniel J. Cassidy, "Undergraduate Scholarship Book." Simon and Schuster, Route 9 West, Englewood Cliffs, NJ, 07632, (800) 922-0579.
- Gail A. Schlachter, "Directory of Financial Aid for Minorities." Reference Service Press, 1100 Industrial Road, Suite 9, San Carlos CA 94070, (415) 594-0743.
- Gail A. Schlachter, "Directory of Financial Aid for Women."
- Gail A. Schlachter, "Directory of Financial Aid for Native Americans."
- Oreon Keesler, "Financial Aids for Higher Education." William C. Brown Publishers, 2640 Kerper Blvd., Dubuque IA, 52001, (800) 338-5578.
- S. Norman and Marie Feingold, "Scholarships, Fellowships, & Loans." Bellman Press, P. O. Box 34937, Bethesda MD 20817, (301) 897-0033.

We will be glad to furnish your librarian with a fuller listing of scholarship directories at any time, free for the asking. Have your librarian to e-mail Dean Chavers with a request.

YOUR UNIVERSITY: You will be surprised, pleasantly, with learning how many scholarships your university has. If it is an Ivy League, the scholarship dollars per year are in the hundreds of millions.

If it is the flagship state university in your state, the figure will be several tens of millions. If you are an outstanding Native student, you should realize that your intended college, and many others besides, will want to recruit you. You should use this knowledge to leverage at least some scholarship support from the university.

Someone on the campus is in charge of scholarships. On a small campus this person may be in the Financial Aid Office. On a large campus this person will probably be separate from Financial Aid. What you want to do is find this person, and have a complete list of scholarships sent to you. That way you will be the person who decides which ones you will apply for, and not someone else.

The tendency of the scholarship officer will be to send you a list of the ones she thinks you are eligible for. Be polite, but ask for the whole list. The University of Oregon, for instance, has a 32-page booklet listing all scholarships on the campus school by school and department by department.

YOUR COMMUNITY: There are dozens of scholarship organizations in your local community. In the bad old days, these scholarships were reserved for the Old Boy Network (OBN). If you were male and Anglo, you knew about them, were tied into the network, and had an inside chance of winning one or several of them. But today, when the nation is moving more and more toward equity and diversity, these local scholarships are opening up more and more and becoming available to women, minorities and other under-served groups.

Students living on reservations should realize that the nearest town to the reservation is part of the reservation community. For instance, Pine Ridge residents are part of the communities of Gordon and Chadron, Nebraska. The residents of the Navajo reservation are part of the communities of Holbrook, Page, Gallup, Grants, Farmington, and Flagstaff—whichever is closer.

Some of the scholarships in your community are the Elks, the Masons, the Lions, the VFW, the Moose, the Optimist, the Soroptimist, the Rotary, the American Association of University Women, the Business and Professional Women, the Civitans, Wal-Mart, department stores, and the Toastmasters. Others such as women's groups, men's groups, church groups, business groups, professional associations, and special interest groups also frequently raise money and administer scholarship programs.

To find them, you will have to play detective. For instance, the Rotary Club will meet once a week in a certain restaurant. Often, as you drive into a town, a sign along the highway will note the location of the Rotary weekly luncheon. You will have to contact that restaurant to learn the name and phone number of the president of Rotary. Then you call that person to get the name and phone number of the scholarship chairman. Then call that person to get a scholarship application. Be very aggressive and persistent in this search, but also be very polite. Do not insult anyone.

One of our applicants found 22 local scholarships in Chadron, Nebraska. Another found 12 local scholarships in Yankton, South Dakota. Three years ago, the Elks Club in Holbrook, Arizona had three scholarships available, and no one applied. We hate to hear things like that.

Most of our applicants, however, have not even looked in their local communities. Don't make this mistake. Remember, there is no limit to the amount of scholarship money you can win!

Once you have finished using all four sources, put them all together to come up with your total list. If you don't have at least 40, regardless of your field of study, you have not looked hard enough.

GETTING READY TO APPLY

Now that you have used all four ways of finding scholarships, you are ready to put your plan into action. Put the scholarships from all four sources together in one place. The best place to store your information is on your computer. Contact the scholarships no more than eight weeks in advance to ask for an application form and guidelines. DO NOT contact them all at the same time. The scholarship "season" is January 1 through April 30.

About five percent will have deadlines before January 1, 2010 and another 10 percent or so will have deadlines after April 30, 2010. But 85-90% will be in the first four months of the calendar year. They are not in business the rest of the year. You want to be patient, polite, and persistent in contacting them to get the application packet.

We recommend that your first contact be eight weeks before the deadline. The second contact, if they have not sent you the materials, should be five weeks out. The third contact, if you still do not have the materials, should be three weeks out.

At this point, you need to hit the panic button—call them, fax them, e-mail them, and mail them every day until you get the materials. Have your counselor to help with this, if necessary.

You will want to keep track of your scholarships carefully. You do not want to miss any of them, and you do not want to offend any of them. Put them in chronological order by the date they are due.

WRITING YOUR ESSAY

Now that you have found the scholarships, you are ready for the hard part. The easy part is finding them, which is only mechanics. The hard part is talking them out of the money. To do this, you are going to have to think. The essay is going to count about 75 points out of 100. The other 25% will be your GPA and your ACT/SAT scores. (Never report the raw score only. ALWAYS report both the raw score and the percentile or NCE score.)

How do you talk them out of the money? It is called an essay. Students should go the CTD website in advance of writing, download the CTD application, and review the Essay Outline that is part of the application.

If you have a 3.8 GPA and a score of 25 or higher on the ACT, you should win almost all of the scholarships. But if you send out an essay which is at the C- level, you will be lucky to win 25%, even with your high grades and high ACT score. If you have a GPA of 3.0 and scored a 20 on the ACT, you can still win scholarships, provided that you have a strong essay. A strong essay can overcome grades and test scores that are a little bit weak, but high grades and high test scores cannot overcome a weak essay nearly as well.

There is no "cutoff" for GPA or for ACT/SAT scores. We have awarded scholarships to students with a 2.6 GPA (which is unusual), and have denied scholarships to students with a 3.3 (which is also unusual). We look at the whole student, not just GPA or ACT/SAT scores. Most scholarship organizations do the same thing.

The essay is the most important part of the application process. The essay will have the following characteristics:

LENGTH: five pages.
SIZE OF TYPE: 11 points.
NUMBER OF PARAGRAPHS PER PAGE: eight.
MARGINS: 1.5 inches on all four sides.
GRADE YOU WILL WANT TO GET ON IT: A+.
NUMBER OF TIMES YOU WILL WRITE IT: As many as it takes to get an A+.

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN THE ESSAY: *What you are going to do in this world before you die to make it a better place. If you have not thought about this yet, right now is an excellent time to start.*

The essay is not about you. It is about a problem that is affecting some people in the world, and what you are going to do about the problem. It is possible to win scholarships without having a problem identified, but your percentage will drop dramatically. The student who applied to us so he could have a good job, buy a house, have a nice family, and have a nice car, got turned down. Hardly anyone is interested in giving you a scholarship to help only yourself. Many people spend their time raising money for scholarships so they can make the world a better place.

The essay is about insight into a real world problem. It is about leadership. It is about compassion. It is about dedication. It is about persistence. It is about determination. It is about mental toughness and the ability to see a difficult task through to completion.

Students should start with a five-page essay. Then when they have gotten that essay to the A+ level, they will boil it down to a two-pager. And when they have that two-pager done, they will boil that one down to a one-pager. If the scholarship application calls for 250 words, that is one page. If it calls for 500 words, that is two pages. If there is no page limit spelled out, send them the five-pager. If they do not ask for an essay, and also do not say not to send them an essay, send them one of the three. It can't hurt.

Often Native students are disappointed in their ACT scores. The student who expected to get a 25 instead gets an 18. The 3.8 student who is valedictorian expects to get a 32 but instead gets a 22. Is there that much test bias in the ACT and the SAT?

As a person who has worked for years with both The College Board (the owner of the SAT) and the testing firm of Harcourt Brace, I can tell you that test bias alone does not account for these huge differences. They may cause 10% or more, but they do not cause the 40 to 50 point differences that we most often see with Native students. Why do these huge differences occur? It is because Native students in general do not read anything outside the classroom.

We recommend that students start in their sophomore year taking the PACT or the PSAT, and that they take it several times as juniors and several times as seniors. CTD will pay for the costs of these tests. Just send us an e-mail with the facts (your name and address, where you attend high school, class level, the cost of the test, when it will be given, what you got on a previous test, what your GPA is, what your intended major is, where you plan to attend college, your tribe and blood quantum, what you plan to do to improve your test scores, the reason you need assistance with paying for the ACT or the SAT, and the amount needed.). If it is a repeat test, tell us what you are doing to improve your score.

There are basically five things students can do to improve their scores. They can start to read books, and they can cram for the test. They can retake the test. They can take one of the test preparation courses if they can afford it. As an alternative, Kaplan, Princeton, and other cramming/self-study courses are available, and we have found that most high school libraries have one or more of these courses available. They can take college prep courses in high school if they are juniors or below.

We know that students who have a GPA of 3.5 or higher, and who usually score a 20 instead of a 25, can improve their scores considerably. We have had students to go from 27 (83rd percentile) to 32 (99th percentile) in four attempts. The cramming, the stress, the strain, and the work involved will pay off when you win lots of scholarships and get into the college of your choice.

Many Native students do not read at all outside the classroom. We have published a book called "Reading for College." We will be glad to make any chapter in the book available to students, parents, counselors, and teachers for student use, at no charge. All we need is an e-mail address or an address to send it to you. Give us some indication of what you are interested in (history, general science, classics, aviation, biography, Native American Literature, etc.) And please ask your librarian to order the book for your use.

To summarize how we can help, CTD can pay for (1) your travel to the nearest college library if your high school does not have a set of directories, (2) your cost for taking the ACT or SAT if you cannot afford it and (3) your admissions charges to college applications if you cannot afford it. We will also review your list of scholarships and tell you if your search has been adequate or not. And we will help you with your essay. Send it to me at CTD4DeanChavers@aol.com for a critique.

RECOMMENDATION: Do not pay anyone to help you with any part of this process. Do not pay an online service to find scholarships for you; do it yourself. Do not pay anyone to help you write your essay; CTD will help you free of charge, and we are the best there is.

RECOMMENDATION: Do not throw away a scholarship if you miss the deadline. You may be able to apply for it next year. Unless it says "for high school seniors only," you can apply later. Students who don't know about scholarships until their junior year in college can still be successful in winning a significant number of them.

RECOMMENDATION: Develop a resume as soon as you start your senior year in high school, or earlier. If you need help, get it from your high school English teacher or counselor, or from us.

RECOMMENDATION: Always convert your raw scores into percentiles or Normal Curve Equivalents (NCE's). Almost no one knows where a 25 on the ACT or a 1200 on the SAT falls on the 1-99 scale, but almost everyone will know the difference between the 45th percentile and the 85th.

RECOMMENDATION: Start taking the ACT or the SAT in the fall of your sophomore year. If you cannot pay for it, CTD will pay for it. Take it four times as a junior and four times as a senior or until you score a 32 or higher—whichever comes first.

RECOMMENDATION: Start reading heavily immediately!. Start today and keep it up for life. In college you will be required to read five to ten (5-10) books per week. If you are not doing this already, you will be in danger of being totally lost in college. We do not want you to become a statistic.

RECOMMENDATION: Send us your list of keywords before you run Fastweb so we can tell you if we think it is adequate or not.

RECOMMENDATION: Send us your list of scholarships once you have cleaned them up. It will really help if you send them by the Internet. Put your internet, directory, university, and community scholarships into one database and send that along. We will tell you if your search has been adequate.

RECOMMENDATION: Start writing as much as you can to help you with college applications. If you are not writing at least one paper a week, it is an excellent idea to start immediately. If your essay is the first thing you have written in high school, you will have real problems with it.

RECOMMENDATION: Do not let your college counselors put you in classes that are too advanced for you. The typical Native student has not taken geometry, trigonometry, and calculus. If you have not taken them, you should be placed in college algebra and trig first, provided you have had at least two years of algebra in high school. If you have had only one year of algebra, you will need to take basic algebra in college before you enroll in college algebra and trig.

RECOMMENDATION: If you are an Advanced Placement student, and you have a weighted GPA, give both your weighted GPA and your unweighted GPA (on a scale of 1.0 to 4.0).

RECOMMENDATION: Contact Dean Chavers or Mary Frost at CTD with any questions, at any time. Feel free to call Dean on his cell phone between 8 a.m., Albuquerque time and midnight.

Catching the Dream
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Fax (505) 262-0534
Cell (505) 553-8435
www.catchingthedream.org
CTD4DeanChavers@aol.com
Mary Frost: Nscholarsh@aol.com

A Brush Hill Odyssey

LIVING - B3

Anna (Howell) Watson & Abbie (Chapman) Gainn taken at the old home place Brush Hill, OK

2009 Oklahoma Museums Association Awards

SPOTLIGHT- B5

FEATURES

USDA Secretary visits Oklahoma tribes

• Vilsack tours Chickasaw Nation as part of Rural Tour Project

MNN/*Terrie Anderson*

Pictured above are participants of the Rural Tour Project where USDA Sec. Tom Vilsack visited the Chickasaw Nation's Nutrition Services Purcell location as part of an outreach to Oklahoma tribal nutrition programs across the country. Muscogee (Creek) Nation was represented by National Council Rep. Terrie Anderson (Okmulgee) and Vicky Karhu from the Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative program.

NATION TO NATIONS

PURCELL — Tom Vilsack, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary visited the Chickasaw Nation Purcell Nutrition Services site on Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2009 as part of the Rural Tour Project and specifically met with Oklahoma Indian tribes first.

Vilsack toured the nutrition center and met with tribal leaders from across the state to discuss issues relating to programs administered through partnerships with the tribes and USDA as well as solutions to challenges facing tribal communities. He was appointed by President Barack Obama and sworn in as the 30th Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) on January 21, 2009.

Rep. Anderson and Vicky Karhu, Co-Director of the Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative were in attendance as delegates for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. A wide variety of issues were discussed with a majority of similarities among the tribes represented.

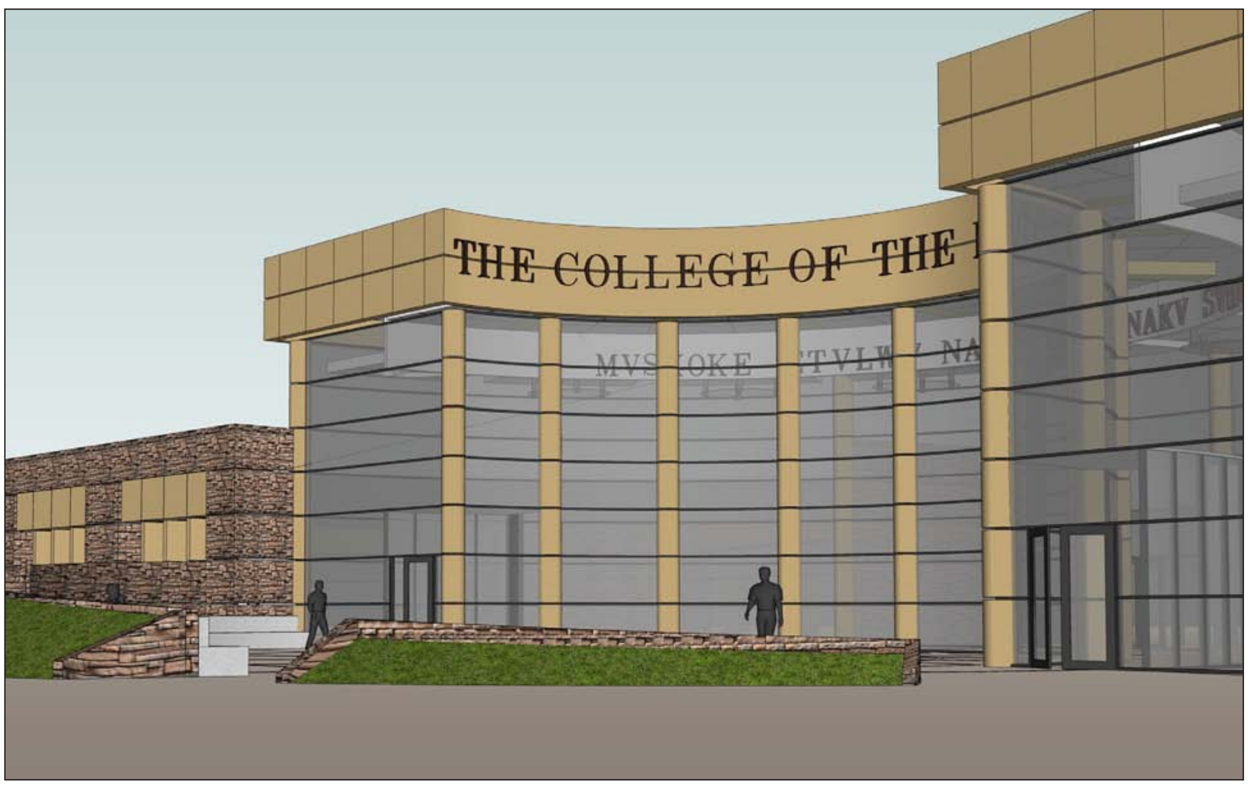
Anderson discussed four major topics with Secretary Vilsack such as meat-processing centers, revitalizing pure sofke seeds, and having equipment needs to grow and sustain agriculturally. She also discussed health care.

Anderson commented, "A lot of people don't realize that we are down to one small bag of pure sofke seeds. Everything else has been contaminated. I want to make sure that the federal government is aware of our needs and are willing to help us sustain the food that the Mvskoke people have lived off of since the be ginning of time."

MCN/*Terrie Anderson*

CMN to host ground breaking

• New campus design to reflect Mvskoke culture



Beck Design/Courtesy

Pictured above is a rendering of one of the designs for the College of the Muscogee Nation. The campus which will feature many culturally-infused elements according to the projected plans.

Media Release
MCN Public Relations

OKMULGEE — The College of the Muscogee Nation will host a ground-breaking ceremony on its new 15 acre campus, adjacent to highway loop 56 southeast of the tribal complex.

It is appropriate that the ground-breaking will take place in Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2009 at 1 p.m., since the Muscogee Creek month, "Ehole" is translated as "frost month" which is a time of change in the traditional Mvskoke language.

Gaming revenue and a HUD grant will fund the first building of four to be constructed on the site. Beck Design the architectural firm has along with the CMN building concept committee incorporated into the design Muscogee cultural features as well as traditional "academic architecture appeal."

Nabholtz Construction, working with the Muscogee Nation Construction Management Department, will be the contractor for the first project of this unique campus plan.

Symbolic features are used throughout the design such as the building facing due east to represent the new beginning that the rising sun brings. The raven which is a symbol of knowledge, a dominant feature in the CMN logo is revealed in the perimeter design. Extensions of the building represent wings that will unite at the circular building commons, the heart of the architecture which appears to soar out of the prairie. A mound image and circle features are used prominently in the design as well. The building will reflect the Muscogee appreciation for natural elements of the earth.

Classrooms, lab, learning resource center, faculty and staff offices and a commons area will be housed in the new facility. Enrollment demands have grown so greatly that the building will be used at fullest capacity when classes begin in Spring, 2010.

For more information, please contact the College of the Muscogee Nation at (918) 758-1480.

MWLI meeting set for Nov. 7, 2009

Media Release
Mvskoke Women's Leadership Initiative

OKLAHOMA CITY — The American Indian Cultural Center & Museum welcomes the Mvskoke Women's Leadership Initiative to AICCM Visitor Center Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009 from 1-3 p.m. AICCM is located at 659 American Indian Blvd., in Oklahoma City at the intersections of I-35 & I-40.

That evening, the Native Cinema Showcase, held at the Oklahoma City Museum of Art, will begin at 5:30 p.m., with Emerging Native Stories and Creek filmmaker Sterlin Harjo's film Barking Water at 8 p.m.

For more information, call (405) 278-8237 or visit: http://www.okc-moa.com/film

The monthly meeting for the MWLI will be held at the American Indian Cultural Center Nov. 7, 2009 from 1-3 p.m.

Chickasaw Nation's Jefferson Keel elected as NCAI President

Media Release
National Congress of American Indians

PALM SPRINGS, Cali., — Jefferson Keel, Lt. Governor of the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma, has been elected President of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) at the organization's 66th Annual Convention. Keel has served as NCAI First Vice-President since 2005.

"Thank you to all of the tribal nations and the members of NCAI," said Keel. "I want to congratulate Cedric Black Eagle, Chairman of the Crow Nation, for his honorable service. In the middle of this election, there was a great sense of unity among all tribal leaders to advance tribal sovereignty and the welfare of all Indian people. Unity is the only way we will make progress, and I pledge to work together to seize the opportunities that are before all of the Tribal Nations."

In addition, Juana Majel-Dixon, Councilwoman for the Pauma Band of Mission Indians was elected First Vice-President; Theresa Two Bulls, President of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, was elected Recording Secretary; and W. Ron Allen, Chairman of the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe was elected Treasurer.

For more information on NCAI, call (202) 466-7767 or visit ncai.org

CULTURE B2

November celebrates Native American Heritage month

LIVING B3

Mvskoke Country: West Texas or Worse

LIFESTYLES B4

Ashley Nicole Burbank

SPOTLIGHT B5

Yardeka Head Start Center visits Henryetta Fire Department

OBITUARIES B6

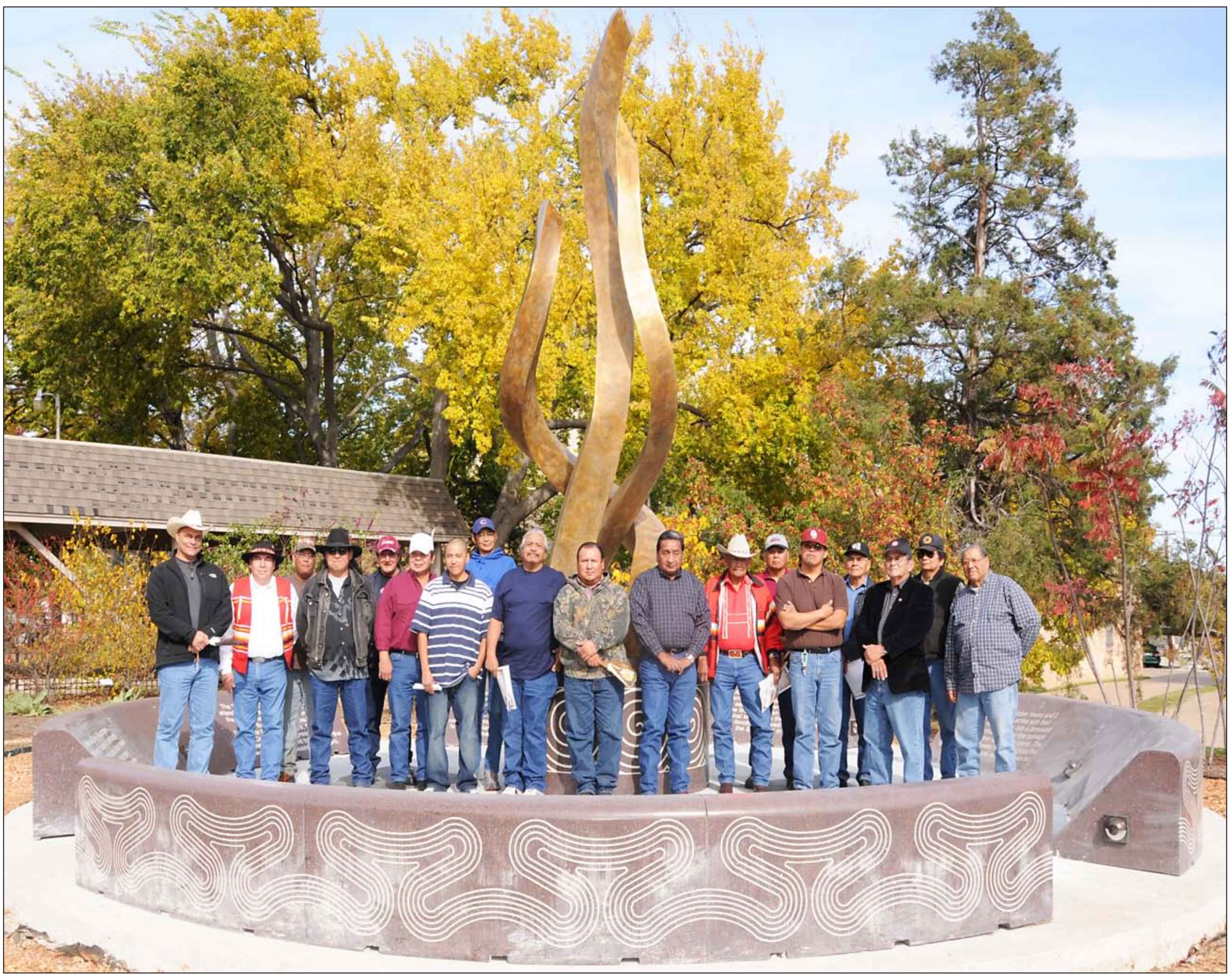
Norma Jean Bible

ADVERTISEMENT B8

Veterans' Day Celebration Tuesday Nov.10

Oak

Continued from A1



MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Pictured above are mekkos from the Mvskoke ceremonial grounds with Muscogee artist Dan Brook (far left) who created the fire statue (foreground) and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis.

Ellis supports his thoughts and believes we need to educate the people about our own Mvskoke history. We Mvskoke Etvlwv have our own story to tell.

Ellis introduced the 2009-2010 Muscogee Nation Royalty and the ceremonial ground Mekkos who carry on the traditions of our tribe, and continue our heritage. Miss Muscogee Rochell Werito thanked Chief Ellis, National Council and Mekkos for their contribution to our people.

Eunice Hill, Nuyaka Isomeponayv, Punvka Cvpkeckv spoke in Mvskoke about what's taking place today, our past and our future. Opunayeckv Arakkueckv (Proclamation of Recognition) was performed by Cherrah Quiett on behalf of City of Tulsa Mayor's Office. Locv Pokv Ohyvteketv (History of Locv Poka) was read by Miss Muscogee 2009-2010 Rochell Werito and provided by Locv Pokv descendent Robert Trepp.

Este Mvskokvlke Enfoletvt Ohyvteketv and Nvkaftetv Lokcvpe Ohyvteketv (History of Council Oak and Creek Traditions) was given by Ted Isham of Helape Ceremonial Ground. Isham introduced himself as Helape Canadian Ceremonial Ground and expressed the honor to be involved in Council Oak.

He stated that at the ceremony, we had with us one of the oldest Mekkos, Simon Harry of Fuco Hvtce (Duck Creek) who has seen a lot of changes in the ceremonial ground way of life and the world as well.

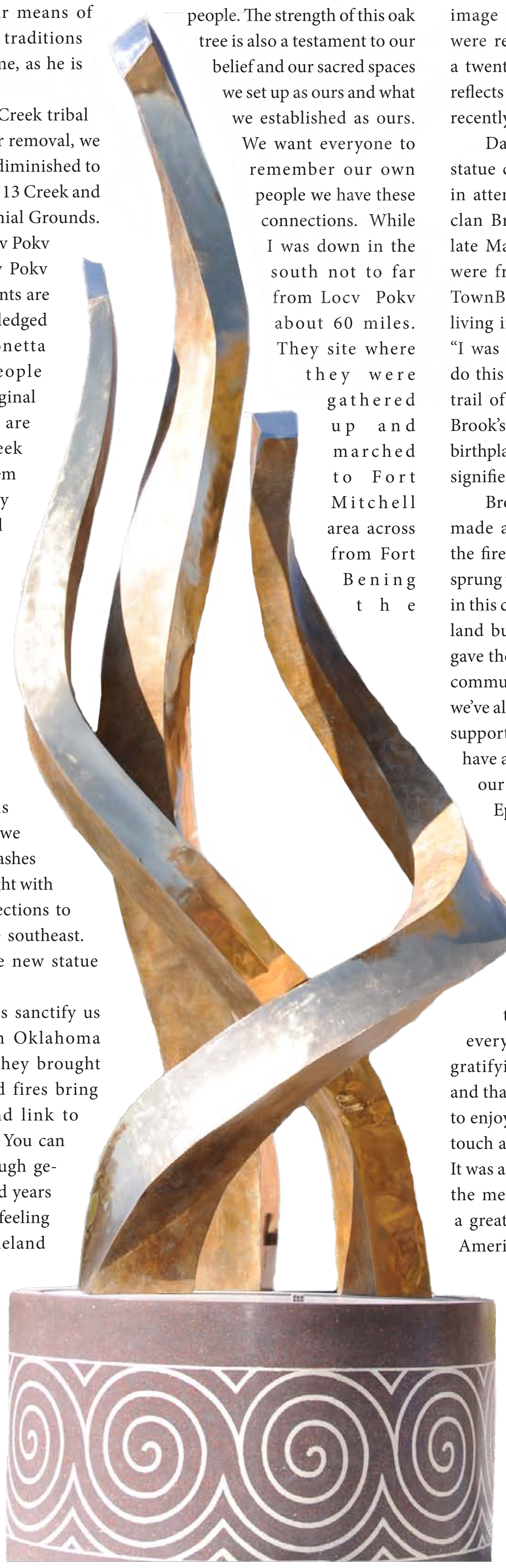
Among the leaders was also the youngest Mekko Vincent Harjo of Helape Ceremonial ground who is the future and our means of continuing Mvskoke traditions for generations to come, as he is guided by our elders.

Out of the many Creek tribal towns established after removal, we had 44 tribal towns it diminished to 16 active tribal towns; 13 Creek and three Euchee Ceremonial Grounds.

Even though Locv Pokv no longer exists Locv Pokv Tribal Town descendents are still here. He acknowledged Chief Ellis and Monetta Trepp. We have people that represent the original 44 tribal towns. We are survivors! Every Creek has a place, given to them by their mothers, they have a clan and a tribal town lineage, every Creek is a member of a tribal town. In reality we still have those 44 tribal towns today. We don't physically see these original towns but we still carry it in our hearts through these descendents which is an amazing fact and we are represented. These ashes and embers they brought with them are direct connections to our homelands in the southeast. Isham mentioned the new statue stickball

Those sacred fires sanctify us being established in Oklahoma Indian territory so they brought with them the sacred fires bring them from homeland link to 1000 years of history. You can make that claim through genealogy for a thousand years you feel that sense of feeling when go to the homeland ancient place people been there lived and died there. In the Southeast our place names are still there derivative of Muskogean world place and names.

Isham talked about the bad ice storm in Tvlse a couple of years ago the city was blacked out by the damage. It is evident that ice storm came through and the entire area was damamged this tree withstood the ice storm and this tree was untouched. The Council Oak tree stood strong like our people. The strength of this oak tree is also a testament to our belief and our sacred spaces we set up as ours and what we established as ours. We want everyone to remember our own people we have these connections. While I was down in the south not to far from Locv Pokv about 60 miles. They site where they were gathered up and marched to Fort Mitchell area across from Fort Bening the interment area of the beginning of the removal all Creeks were sent on the southern edge. All the Creeks were housed approximately 2,000 into this area until they were deported to Oklahoma Indian territory. In our homelands at Fort Mitchell there an image signifying the families that were removed from there. There is a twenty-foot flame at that site that reflects and mirrors this second statue recently placed here.



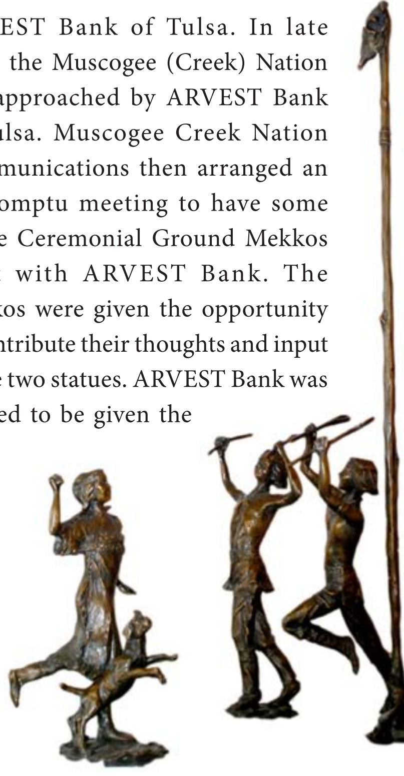
Dan Brook Sculptor created the statue called "Morning Prayer" was in attendance. Brook of the (Deer) clan Brook is the grandson of the late Margaret Harbison her people were from Hickory Ground Tribal TownBrook a Okemah native now living in Waco, Texas. Brook stated "I was very honored and excited to do this there is only one end for the trail of tears for the Creek Nation". Brook's art piece marks the site of the birthplace of Tulsa more meaningful it signifies the traditional way of life

Brooks stated "Our Forefathers made a choice when they brought the fire. Look what happened what sprung up around them. Maybe a man, in this case a white man can take away land but not the creek people. God gave the Creeks the power to create a community. Look at what we've done we've always been gifted in the arts, we support artist. We have a college we have a tribal college and we educate our people. We are blessed, may Epofvnkv (the creator) continue to bless us". Brook a Okemah native now living in Waco, Texas. Brook said the statue looks like a flame and at another angle its an abstract man with his hands extended up to the creator. Every artist wants everyone to enjoy their art. It is gratifying to see everyone enjoy it and that is what you want is to public to enjoy and interact with it. You can touch all you want unlike a painting. It was an honor to have a picture with the mekkos around the statue. It is a great contribution when a Native American artist can honor his own tribe.

Nearing the end of the ceremony Brown vowed to continue to learn more from his elders and to carry on our traditions and to never stop learning. After Emakhottvketv (closin emarks) Chief Ellis presented his good friend and artist Dan Brook a large beaded eagle feather to express his appreciation for the gift of his talent. National Council Representatives in attendance were Terrie Anderson, David Nichols, David Hill and Cherrah Quiett.

Editor's note: The two new additions to the Council Oak Park are presented by the City of Tulsa and the State of Oklahoma Centennial Commission in collabration with ARVEST Bank of Tulsa. In late 2007, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation was approached by ARVEST Bank of Tulsa. Muscogee Creek Nation Communications then arranged an impromptu meeting to have some of the Ceremonial Ground Mekkos meet with ARVEST Bank. The Mekkos were given the opportunity to contribute their thoughts and input to the two statues. ARVEST Bank was pleased to be given the opportunity to meet with the "Keepers of our tradition". Monies from the Oklahoma Centennial Commission were used to fund the two projects. Sandra Van Zandt created the first statue titled "Not just a ball game" the statue was dedicated on December 19, 2008. The sculpture features three youth playing social stickball, which is a traditional game with ceremonial significance in Native American (Mvskoke) culture. A plaque near the sculpture explains in our Mvskoke language and in english how stickball is "Not Just A Game" to some ceremonial grounds. The ball pole itself is sometimes recognized as a religious symbol, and some even call it a prayer pole.

In addition to the sculpture, this park's amenities include wrought iron fencing, new sidewalks, landscaping, irrigation and benches were added to the park.



TINY TOT'S THURSDAYS

Bring your tots ages 2-4

brought to you by

STONE BRIDGE

209 West 8th Street
Starting November 12, 2009

9am - 1pm, we'll have arts, tumble, music and more!
Parent's workshop from 9am - 10:30am
starting with "Understanding your Child's Learning Style"

First Tiny Tot's Thursdays is on us. After the first time it's $4 a week. Tiny Tots will be held every Thursday except over Thanksgiving break. To hold your spot, call Stonebridge Academy at 918-752-1200.

Mvskoke Country

West Texas or worse

by James Treat

Earlier this fall I visited Glacier National Park in Montana.

I had been there twice before, during the mid-sixties, when our family camped across the northern plains to escape the southern plains' summer heat. Home movies shot on 8mm film preserved brief glimpses of glaciers that are now only a memory, of glacial runoff that no longer flows.

Although I don't remember much from those childhood trips, I've always wanted to go back, a desire that has grown more urgent in recent years as I've learned about global warming. I hoped to see the last of the park's main attractions before they're gone.

By coincidence, I arrived at the gateway hamlet of East Glacier on the eve of the heavily promoted PBS series "The National Parks." But I didn't ride Amtrak halfway across the continent to watch television, so I'll have to catch it on reruns.

* * *

Glaciers are formed during periods of regional cooling, when snow accumulates from year to year and gradually turns to ice. If this process continues long enough, the combined weight of snow and ice forces the bottom layers to move across the land, eroding terrain like a giant scouring pad.

But glaciers produce more than just scenic landscapes.

Meltwater from alpine glaciers amounts to about a quarter of annual mountain runoff. These cool, clear streams provide more than half of the world's fresh water supply. Turn off the glacial spigot, and a lot of people are going to get thirsty.

If the climate turns warmer and drier, glaciers start retreating. And they've been under attack since the Industrial Revolution, when humans began exploiting fossil fuels and filling the atmosphere with greenhouse gases. This has accelerated in recent years as we've increased our consumption of nonrenewable energy.

Scientists estimate that 98% of earth's glaciers are now in retreat, and that 80% of them will disappear by the end of this century.

In 1850, there were about 150 glaciers in the area that would become Glacier National Park. When my family visited the park in the mid-sixties, there were about 50 left.

Today there are only 26.

Park brochures and exhibits currently say these dwindling survivors won't last beyond the year 2030. But talk with a park ranger and you'll learn that the latest measurements indicate they're melting even faster than predicted. The glaciers of Glacier National Park will be completely gone by 2020, just a decade from now.

Glacier was established in 1910 as the United States' tenth national park, so government officials and local leaders are gearing up for next year's centennial. Since we humans can't seem to kick our addiction to coal and oil and natural gas, maybe this would be a good time for a new name: Glacier MEMORIAL National Park.

* * *

What does all this have to do with Mvskoke country?

The Mvskoke people have lived in warm, humid environments for a very long time. The Mvskoke language doesn't even have a word for glacier, though it wouldn't be hard to come up with one—akhvse-rakko hetute (frozen lake) might do.

The impact of global warming may be more obvious at higher altitudes and latitudes, where glaciers tend to live. But every part of our planet is feeling the effects of anthropogenic (human-caused) climate change.

The average temperature on the Great Plains is already up 1.5 degrees compared to 1979, a remarkable increase in just thirty years. And it will likely jump another couple of degrees during the next decade.

Temperature rise in the southern plains will be largest during the summer months. Extreme weather events—heat waves, heavy rains, tornadoes—will become more frequent.

The southern plains will get less precipitation during the twenty-first century, especially in the west. The panhandles of Oklahoma and Texas could dry up enough to produce another Dust Bowl.

In the very near future, people in Mvskoke country are going to find themselves living in a climate that is noticeably hotter and more arid than they remember.

It is almost as if the Creek Nation has pulled up roots and started migrating to the southwest. You may roll out of bed one morning and wonder how you ended up in West Texas, or worse. Could this be a second great removal, with the Mvskoke people—and everyone else—embarking on a long passage into the unknown?

The earth simply cannot sustain our current levels of consumption and waste. Anthropogenic climate change is tempting fate on this organic, blue planet.

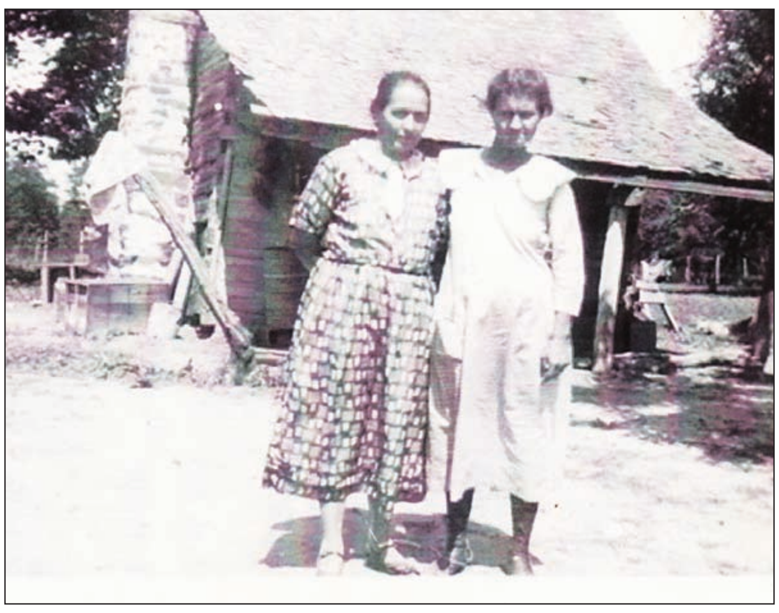
* * *

You can find more information about Mvskoke country, including an archive of previous columns, at http://mvskokecountry.wordpress.com/

I welcome your comments on anything I've written, as well as your suggestions for things I should be writing about. You can reach me by email at treaty@illinois.edu

And Still the Waters Run:

A Brush Hill Odyssey



Photos courtesy of George Windes

Pictured above are Anna (Howell) Watson and Abbie (Chapman) Guinn standing in front of the old home place in Brush Hill, Okla.

by George Windes
CMCA Historian

YORBA LINDA, Cali., — The 1870s were tough times in DeSoto Parish, La. The same could be said for all of the Bayou state. It was just after the Civil War - the end of cruel slavery had changed the southern way of life. Large plantations were hard pressed to survive. It was the age of carpetbaggers. US authorities were often stymied in trying to protect those elected to fill parish (county) offices. There was much unrest and violence occasionally occurred.

In 1873, two close friends who had grown up together (it's believed their families shared a large house divided by a central wall in the village of Pleasant Hill, La.) suddenly left the village and traveled to Indian Territory. There are rumors as to why they hurriedly, but it's only conjecture and I'll not pursue it here.

I will reveal that while barely in their teens, they were eyewitnesses to a terrible Civil War battle that fell upon their hometown. Hundreds of soldiers and a thousand horses were killed, the school burnt, churches filled with the wounded, etc. There was surely bitterness in them over the carnage they saw, which changed their lives forever.

Their names were W. Scott Howell and Benjamin Franklin (Frank) Chapman. Young Howell was a grandson of William Weatherford (Red Eagle). He was born in Alabama, but had been raised in Louisiana. Young Chapman was from a very prominent Georgian family. His father, Stephen Decatur Chapman, was a well-respected businessman in the piney woods of DeSoto, Sabine & Natchitoches parishes.

The young men found work associated with what was the recently constructed MK&T railroad near North Fork Town in McIntosh County (the old town was abandoned as Eufaula rose beside the railroad). Eventually the two friends meet and married two full-blood Creek sisters (one said to have taught school in North Fork). They were from a longtime Brush Hill family.

Salina and Polly Ann were the daughters of John and Abbie Goodin Lowe. Abbie was from a Creek family who had traveled to Indian Territory in the 1830's. She claimed to have ridden the entire distance in an empty barrel attached to the wagon, piled high with her father's merchandise to be traded in the new land. She was eight. They eventually settled at Brush Hill. They raised eight children on land they would own before, during, and after the Civil War. It remained in their family for some years after Abbie died in 1913, when taxes finally took it. A sturdy log cabin stood there for decades. The deep root cellar and the tiny Lowe family cemetery remain to this day. The location is now within the boundaries of the Fountainhead State Park in McIntosh County, Okla.

There were two children born to Salina and Scott, Leroy (Lee), born 1878, and JoAnna (Anna) born 1881. Anna was a posthumous baby, her father had been killed by a kicking mule a few months earlier. Salina then married the Rev. John McIntosh and had three more children, Elizabeth (1886), Jobe (1888) and Janetta (1890). The Reverend John was well known in the Creek Nation. He was a son of the Rev. Chilly McIntosh and grandson of our ill-fated Chief, William McIntosh of Georgia.

Early death would claim young Frank Chapman as well, just three years after his best friend. He died of what was called 'black jaundice.' He left three little girls for Polly to raise, Abbie Lee (1880), Mary Lou (1882) and Ella Mae (1884). Polly married twice more, to Dr. West and a Mr. Harper. She's buried in Greenlawn Cemetery (Checotah).

Although the two families lost their fathers, their offspring remained very close. They visited often at the homestead of their beloved grandma, Abbie Lowe, who lived till age 98. Her tall stone is in Lowe Cemetery. The park service keeps a nice pathway open back to the cemetery.

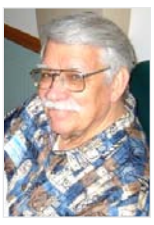
Lee Howell married Addie, of the Wash Collins family. They lived at Checotah and had four handsome children. Anna married Santa Ana Watson. They lived at old Watsonville, near Dustin, and had eight children. Santa Ana was a close friend to a James McFarland and possibly involved in the Brooks/McFarland shoot-out at Spokogee (Dustin) in 1902. (I hope to tell that story soon). Lee and Abbie are buried at Greenlawn Cemetery. Anna and Santa Ana are at the Watson/Harjo Cemetery (with stones & Creek houses). James McFarland's unloved grave is also there, marked by an old rock. I'm kin to the Brooks involved in the famed shootout (can you tell?). My great uncle Willis & his son Clifton died in the hail of bullets, along with old man Riddle. James McFarland met his fate a month later, shot from ambush, his assassin unknown…

Numerous people in the Muscogee Creek Nation today are descended from those two friends who hurried to I.T. in the 1870's. Among them is Monica, the wife of David Hill of the National Council. Her great granddad was Santa Ana Watson. A descendant of Lee

Howell was mayor of Checotah a few years ago. Clarence Kirby of Onapa is a Chapman descendant. He is a very knowledgeable (and sharing) family historian.

Do you country music buffs know Merle Haggard's parents once lived at Brush Hill?

Windes has been an active member of the California Muscogee Creek Association for nearly a decade and is currently serving on the Board as historian. He may be reached at: georgewindes@gmail.com.



Indian Falls Creek update: *A challenge to Native American churches across the U.S.*

by Victor Cope
Executive Director of Indian Falls Creek

DAVIS — Greetings from Indian Falls Creek, we hope all is well in your part of Indian Country. Indian Falls Creek 2009 was a record breaking camp and God receives all the praise. God showed us something very important at camp this summer.

The revelation if Indian Falls Creek is to grow then we must do everything possible to help and encourage success in the local church. I know this is nothing new but sometimes organizations forget what their soul purpose is. Indian Falls Creek proposes a challenge to all our Native congregations Nationwide (see attachment). The Challenge does not contain any new revelation, or a new revolutionary way to do God's work and it is not another program. The heart of the challenge is to remind us that we (Native Christians) need to get busy doing God's work. If our local churches are growing, healthy and strong then all other church related entities will reap a great harvest. I truly believe the main reason we are losing the spiritual battle in America is just plain old laziness in a large percentage of our churches today.

Prayerfully consider the challenge and if you or your organization deems it to be worthy please participate and enlist other churches to get busy. Also send this to all your contacts and encourage them to do the same. May God lead us to do the IMPOSSIBLE.

The Project: Encourage every Indian congregation nationwide to participate as one to reach our Native Peoples. "Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in that my house may be filled." Luke 14:23

Why:

1. Nine out of 10 Indians do not know about the "Saving Grace" of Jesus.

2. We are losing the battle to reach our people.

3. Many of our churches do not have a pastor and are on the verge of closing.

4. We are losing our young people and youth.

5. Many churches do not have a vision. "Where there is no vision the people perish." Proverbs 29:18

6. We have lost our zeal and very few are going out into the fields that are white unto harvest. "Go ye therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and low, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen Matthew 28:18

7. Dr. Henry Blackaby has stated that he believes that the next Great Spiritual Awakening could come through our Indian people. The sadness concerning this prophetic message is that we have taken great pride in this possibility, we are waiting patiently for this to happen and we are not doing anything to bring this vision to fruition.

8. Some believe that the present day Indian Church is incapable of reaching our people.

The Challenge: Indian Southern Baptist Churches and other Native Congregations should band together in a concerted effort to reach our Indian people with the Good News. One pastor A. J. Tiger at Indian Falls Creek said I am tired of just talking it is time to just go and do it. "And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified." I Corinthians 2:1-2 Indian Falls Creek challenges each member, church and association nationwide to lead their state convention in baptisms and growth in the 2009 – 2010 church year.

The Plan

Each Indian congregation should prayerfully consider participating in the nationwide effort to reach the Lost and to strengthen their church. The time frame is July 15, 2009 through July 15, 2010. Congregations should evaluate their strengths/weaknesses and prayerfully ask God what area or areas should they target or focus on.

Focus on the Basics

- Salvation/Baptism – Make this a priority in your church again. Reach the Lost.
- New Members – Searching for Christians that have fallen away from the faith for whatever reason.
- Special Service – Remind our people of the need for pastors, missionaries and full time workers for the Lord.
- Sunday School – Makes this a priority in your church again. Teaching the Word of God.
- Outreach – Contacts consist of (phone calls, email, other internet entities, mail and visits). Seek out our Native Peoples but do not forget everyone needs a relationship with Jesus (Red , Yellow, Black and White they are all precious in His sight).

To be continued in the December MNN.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Ashley Nicole Burbank

OKMULGEE — Ashley Nicole Burbank was crowned the 2009 Homecoming Basketball Queen.

She is a senior at Okmulgee High School.

Her parents are Bill and Alene Burbank.

Her interests are basketball, softball and soccer. One of her escorts was her cousin, Isaac Looney.

Grandparents are the late James Smith and Katie Smith, and the late Bill Burbank Sr., and the late Marian Rumsey.

Katie Bridges

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — On Oct. 17, 2009 the Texas State Rifle Association (TSRA) Hosted the State Smallbore 3-Position State Championship Match where Katie Bridges competed in the state championship match.

The match was held at the South Texas Marksmanship Training Center in San Antonio, Texas. The first shot was fired at 9 a.m., with the prone match. Shooting distance was 50 yards on the A-51 metric target. This is the hardest 50 yard target there is. The center of a bull is smaller than a #2 pencil.

Competing in the top smallbore 3-position were competitors from across the state. Katie shot a 392-21x winning the aggregate on the prone match placing her seven points ahead of second place. "I knew I could lead with the prone match, I wasn't sure about the rest," said Bridges.

The competitors started watching her scores. They knew they would not be able to out-shoot her in the prone stage but they were hoping to beat her in the following stages. "Parents were starting to get a little nervous also," said her mother. Next was the standing match where she scored a 341-2x and took first in that match as well with a lead of eight points. Parents and competitors were watching her targets with scopes and binoculars all the while watching the scores as they were being posted.

The third match was the kneeling stage, and Bridges shot a 370-9x winning that match with a four-point lead. She had an aggregate lead of 28 points. The fourth match was a standing 20-shot final of the top 10 competitors. A lot of talk was taking place on how to beat her out in the finals. All the top shooters were watching her closely and trying hard to take that top spot. Their best efforts so far had landed them short. They knew they had to overcome that 28 point lead she had. "You could feel the intensity in the air. Everyone was getting nervous, including me," said her mother.

She fell in score on that match a little, but was still able to maintain a lead of 15 points over the second place competitor to take the State Smallbore 3-Position Champion Title with a score of 1261-33x.

She also placed first in her classification of NRA Outdoor 3-Position Expert. She will receive an engraved plaque in the shape of Texas for State Champion and a medallion for High Expert Class. She fought hard to get the best scores she could. This rounded out the year with taking both the Texas State Prone and 3-Position Championship Titles in one month. She plans on continuing her rifle sport and hopefully making it to the Jr. Olympic and will be attending the NRA Nationals again next summer.

Her hopes and dreams are to get a four-year scholarship to college and be able to compete at the collegiate level. Pictured to the right is Katie with State 3-Position Champion Plaque and rifle.

BIRTHDAYS

Renee Stephens

TOPEKA, Kansas — Renee Stephens celebrated her fifth birthday on Sept. 20, 2009 with a Bowling party.

He is the son of Kelly and Christina Stephens.

He has one sibling, Shawndi Stephens.

Grandparents are Bob and Judy Allen and the late Helena Allen and David and Rita Stephens.

Great grandparents are the late Reuben and Peggy Chalakee and the late Kring and Edith Allen and the late Wilber and Dolores VanEtten and Carrie and the late Howard Stephens.

She attends Calvary Lutheran Learning Center and Creative Learning Adventures.

She is of the Bear Clan and of the Cheyaha Tribal Town.

Shawndi Stephens

TOPEKA, Kansas — Shawndi Stephens celebrated her seventh birthday on May, 15, 2009 with a "Horses" themed party.

He is the son of Kelly and Christina Stephens.

He has one sibling, Renee Stephens.

Grandparents are Bob and Judy Allen and the late Helena Allen and David and Rita Stephens.

Great grandparents are the late Reuben and Peggy Chalakee and the late Kring and Edith Allen and the late Wilber and Dolores VanEtten and Carrie and the late Howard Stephens.

She attends West Indianola Elementary.

She is of the Bear Clan and of the Cheyaha Tribal Town.

Commercial tobacco took control.

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Big tobacco companies have invaded our communities and jeopardized the sacred role of tobacco. Right now, we're suffering the deadly consequences. But we can fight back. We can quit commercial tobacco. Because to our people, tobacco use is sacred. And so is our future.

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☎ Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline
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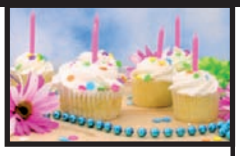
TOBACCO STOPS WITH ME.

Funded by: Oklahoma Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust Oklahoma State Department of Health U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:



Roll Number:________________
Phone Number: (___)____________
Name: ______________________________
Address:_____________________________
Date of Birth: _______________________
Theme of the party:___________________
Parents: _____________________________
Siblings: _____________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
School: ______________________________
Clan: ________________________________
Tribal Town:__________________________

Birth:

Roll Number:________________
Phone Number: (___)____________
Name: ______________________________
Address:_____________________________
Date of Birth: _______________________
Name of Hospital: ____________________
Weight: ______ pounds ______ ounces______inches
Parents: _____________________________
Siblings: _____________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
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Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
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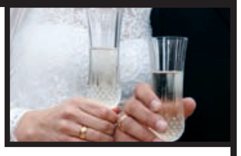
Clan: ________________________________
Tribal Town:__________________________

Announcements:



Roll Number:________________
Phone Number: (___)____________
Name: ______________________________
Address:_____________________________
Parents: _____________________________
Siblings: _____________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: ________________________________
Tribal Town:__________________________
Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

It's dawn in Mystic, Connecticut. It's a beautiful, New England seaport town. It's fall and the trees are bursting in yellow and red. I can smell the sea. Still I feel uneasy, like walking into a building where there's been rough trouble. I keep thinking about how this Eastern edge bore the brunt of colonization. European maps showed this location as a sea of monsters larger than ships. If ships made it this far, they would fall off into the abyss of the unknown. And in essence they did, into a land of plenty, far from Europe or India. They found a new "India", and preceded to demonize and massacre the native people they found occupying these rich lands because their European God, imported from the Middle East, had given them dominion over everything, in writing.

Because I am uneasy of a history here that I don't know, and find nothing in the hotel room tourist information magazines, I research on Google and discover that over 600 Pequot people, mostly women and children, were burned in a violent massacre here in 1637. The two entrances to the village were blocked and the village torched. The traditional enemies of the Pequot assisted the Puritan patriots. The only survivors were those who had followed the sachem Sassacus in a raiding party outside the village. On record are the Puritan preachers' sermons of praise for God's assistance in the killing of the heathens who stood in the way of righteousness.

I travel frequently these days and it isn't often that such violence impresses itself so clearly to my awareness. It's not surprising however, as indigenous peoples were 100% of the population. We're now roughly ½ of 1% of the total census of this country. Can you imagine Europe with a handful of Europeans, or China without Chinese? These violent acts remain imprinted throughout these lands. We as native people carry the weight in our knowing. It is also a burden of the whole U.S. because the country was established on violence. This is the underside of the American legacy and this country will not move forward with integrity without a collective acknowledgement and healing.

All the high figures for diabetes, strokes, heart attacks, suicide and violence taking our children, drug dependence, physical and spiritual illnesses can be tracked to this holocaust. It's a holocaust that continues to find roots with every act of disrespect, of racism, of judgment against or within us. We are often the perpetrators as we judge others who are not Indian enough, too white, black, who are not Christian enough or traditional enough.

The place to begin is within. Each act of compassion, kindness and forgiveness makes a handhold for those around us, and our descendents.

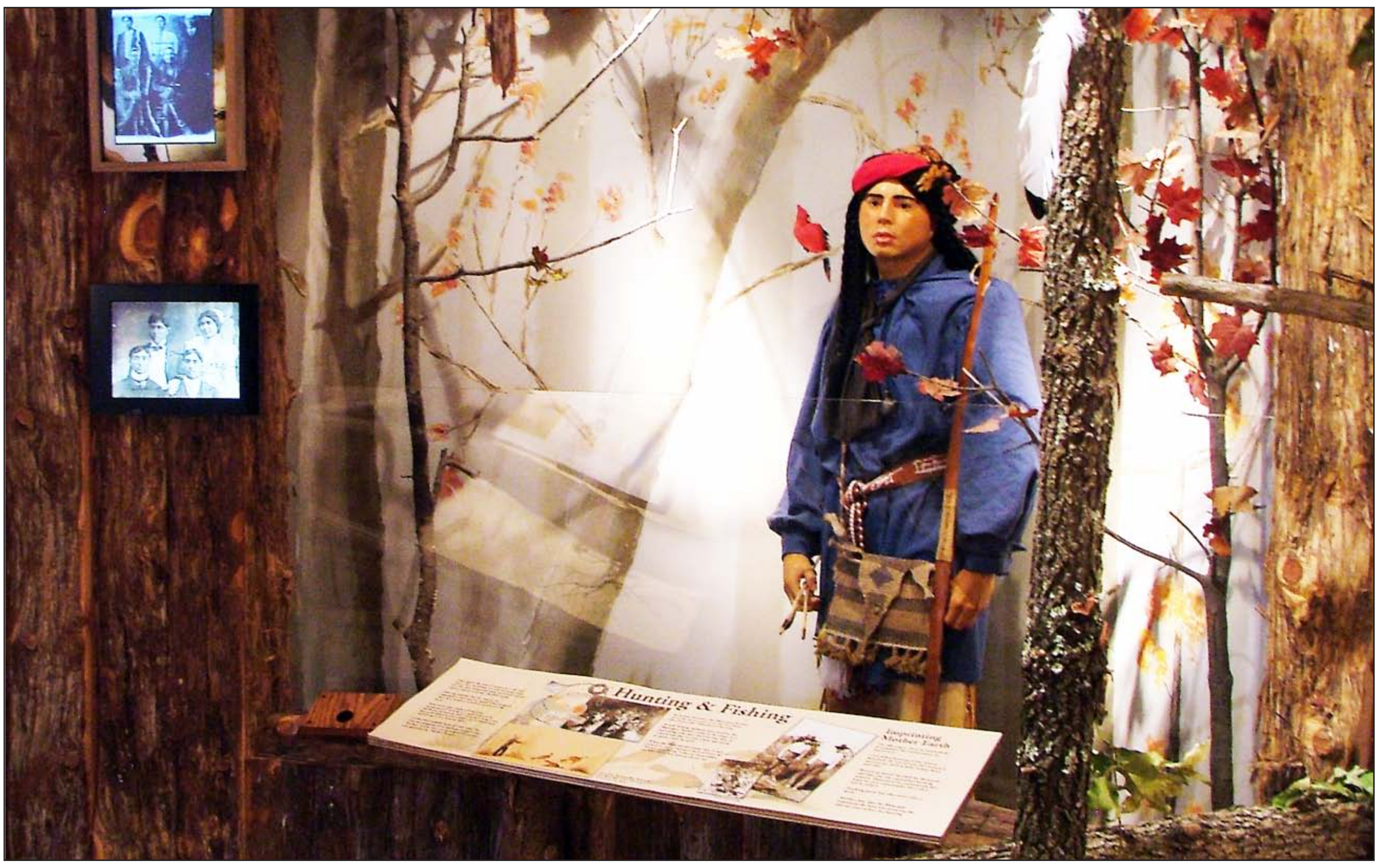
Thanksgiving is on us again. The holiday never sets easy with me. For many of us, it is a day of sadness, of mourning. I don't begrudge my relatives and friends who wish to acknowledge it. And I love turkey and dressing. Still, the celebration has nothing to do with real history.

On another note: During my travels I got to hang with Durango Mendoza, a Creek citizen who is now living in Champaign, Illinois. He's an excellent photographer, writer and kind person. He sends his regards to everyone and has been missing his Muscogee Nation News. Please send it to him!

Editor's note: Mr. Durango, please send us your current contact information and we will get it updated. Mvto for reading!

2009 Oklahoma Museums Association Awards

• Dr. Betty Gerber recognized for work with Broken Arrow Historical Society Museum



Oklahoma Museums Association/Courtesy

Pictured above is a diorama of traditional Mvskoke hunting and fishing methods developed by Dr. Betty Gerber for exhibition by the Broken Arrow Historical Society's new museum which opened to the public in June 2009.

Media Release
Oklahoma Museums Association

BROKEN ARROW — Dr. Betty Gerber of Broken Arrow was presented a Certificate of Recognition in the "individual" category of the 2009 Oklahoma Museums Association Awards held in Lawton on Sept. 25, 2009. She currently serves as a Legislative Appointee on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Museum Board.

Gerber was nominated for her work in developing, writing, and installing 12 exhibits in the Broken Arrow Historical Society's new museum. A grand opening for the new museum was held in June with 2,000 in attendance throughout the day.

Particularly noteworthy is Gerber's design of a tribal town, which was sponsored by the Muscogee (Creek) National Council in 2007. Research involved talking to tribal elders, medicine men and others to accurately tell the story of the tribal town in Indian Territory.

The exhibit is housed in a round house cedar pole structure with four brush arbors and conch shell gorget designs painted into the floor. Dioramas feature stickball, women's roles and traditional hunting and fishing methods.

Fine art reproductions of Acee Blue Eagle, Solomon McCombs, Jerome Tiger, Bobbie C. Martin, and others were provided by Gilcrease Museum to illustrate early lifeways in Indian Territory, and sound tracks of music and stories make the exhibit multi-sensory.

Gerber is a daughter of Lvca-Pokv Town and Beaver Clan. She is the great-granddaughter of Rosa Fulotka and Anderson Chisholm, granddaughter of Minnie Chisholm Martin Chalakee and daughter of Carl Martin.

Dr. Gerber began the museum project following her retirement from education.

Collectively, the new exhibit gallery moves the visitor through the early founding of the Broken Arrow (Thlikachka) Tribal Town in 1828 and into its days as a railroad stop for the Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad, a coal mining community, and a hub for cotton farming. Other exhibits feature a 1930s jail cell, a reconstructed Main Street, and a military exhibit that spans World War I through Desert Storm.

Tours are available at the Broken Arrow Museum by calling (918) 258-2616. The museum is open at 10 a.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

Yardeka Head Start Center visits HFD

• Henryetta Fire Department welcomes students for fire safety month

MNN/*Angel Ellis*

Pictured above are Yardeka Head Start students who recently visited the Henryetta Fire Department October 5, 2009 to learn about fire safety practices. The students learned about how to prevent injuries in the home as well as how to avoid fires, extinguish inflamed clothing and role of fire fighters.

by Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

HENRYETTA — Students at the Yardeka Head Start center, located just South of Henryetta, visited the Henryetta Fire Department Oct. 5, 2009 to learn about fire safety techniques. The focus of such educational visits is to expose young children to various fire and preventive techniques as well as establish an understanding that firemen are there to help the students.

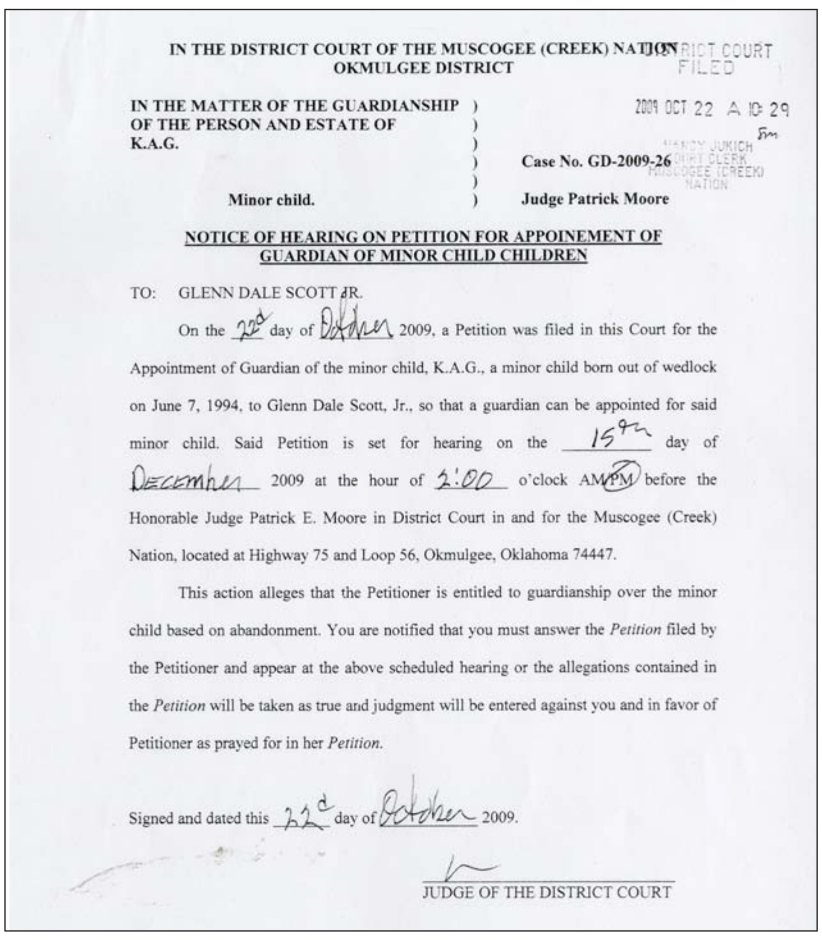
Lt. Toby Elam showed the students around the station and gave the eager young crowd a glimpse into the daily routine of a firefighter. During the tour the students watched a video, which explained the importance of fire escape plans for the home. Firefighter Tyler Wieland, demonstrated the "Stop, Drop and Roll," method of extinguishing flames on clothing to the students. The children took turns practicing covering their faces and rolling on the floor so that they would know what to do should their clothing catch fire.

Elam and Wieland also showed the students various household items that could be harmful to them such as cookware and explained the importance of never playing with such items. The firefighters also urged the children to never play with cleaning supplies.

In an effort to make the young students more familiar with firefighters, they were shown how firefighters look in full emergency gear. By allowing the children to see a person with the heavy coat, pants and oxygen masks, the students would be less likely to be scared should they be in a situation in which they required assistance from a firefighter.

One of the most popular experiences the student encountered was getting a firsthand look at the inside of the fire trucks. Each student in turn was able walk through the cab of one of the trucks and see a fire engine up close. The crew at the Henryetta Fire Department sent the students home with an educational coloring books, fireman's hat and a wealth of safety knowledge.

Legal Notices (continued from A4)



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 OCT 22 A 10:29
JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP)
OF THE PERSON AND ESTATE OF)
K.A.G.)
) Case No. GD-2009-26
)
Minor child.) Judge Patrick Moore

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR APPOINEMENT OF GUARDIAN OF MINOR CHILD CHILDREN

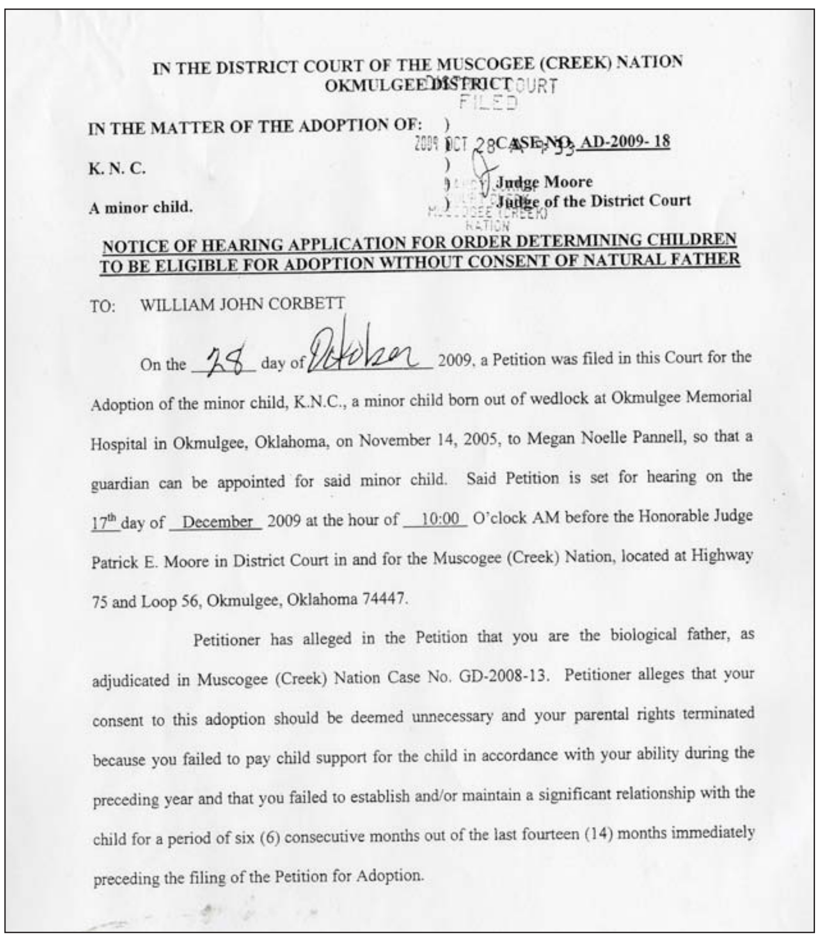
TO: GLENN DALE SCOTT JR.

On the 22d day of October 2009, a Petition was filed in this Court for the Appointment of Guardian of the minor child, K.A.G., a minor child born out of wedlock on June 7, 1994, to Glenn Dale Scott, Jr., so that a guardian can be appointed for said minor child. Said Petition is set for hearing on the 15th day of December 2009 at the hour of 2:00 o'clock AM [✓ PM] before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in District Court in and for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, located at Highway 75 and Loop 56, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447.

This action alleges that the Petitioner is entitled to guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment. You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioner and appear at the above scheduled hearing or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Signed and dated this 22d day of October 2009.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 OCT 28

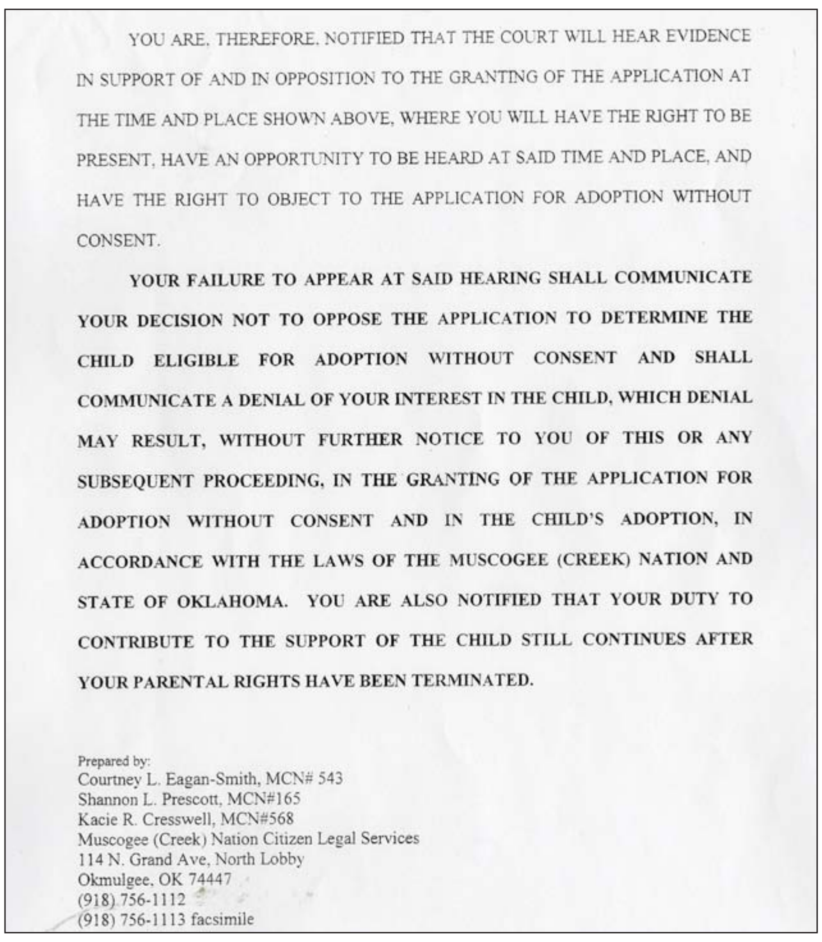
IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF:)
) CASE NO. AD-2009- 18
K. N. C.)
) Judge Moore
A minor child.) Judge of the District Court

NOTICE OF HEARING APPLICATION FOR ORDER DETERMINING CHILDREN TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT OF NATURAL FATHER

TO: WILLIAM JOHN CORBETT

On the 28 day of October 2009, a Petition was filed in this Court for the Adoption of the minor child, K.N.C., a minor child born out of wedlock at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on November 14, 2005, to Megan Noelle Pannell, so that a guardian can be appointed for said minor child. Said Petition is set for hearing on the 17th day of December 2009 at the hour of 10:00 O'clock AM before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in District Court in and for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, located at Highway 75 and Loop 56, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447.

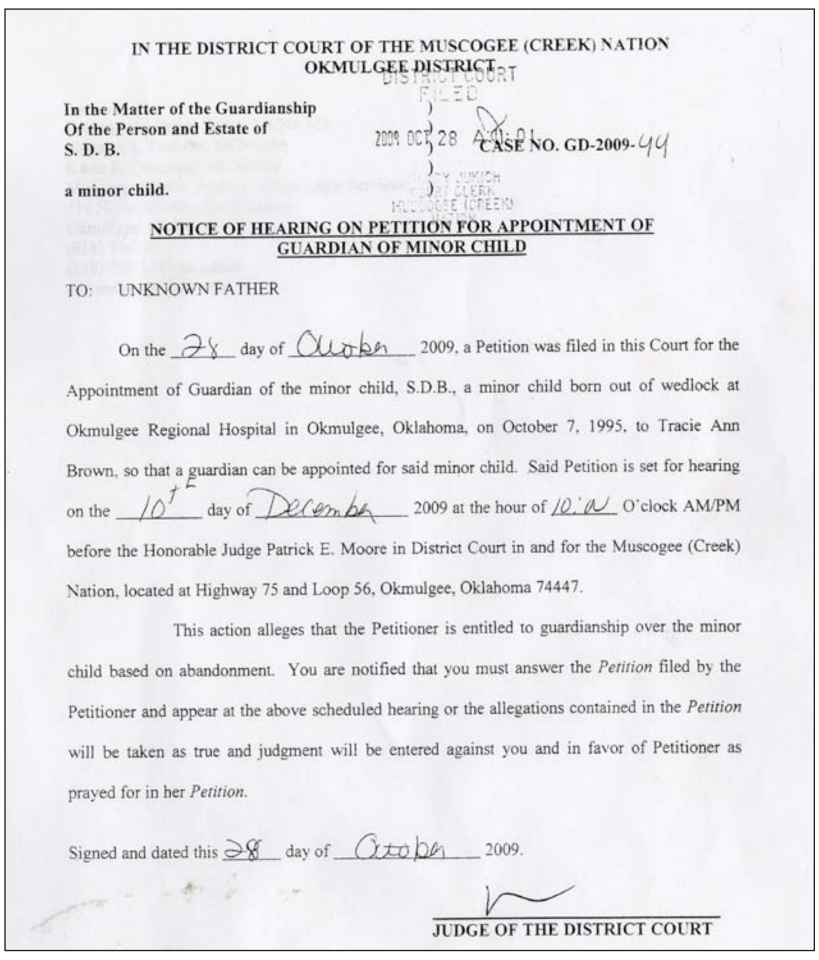
Petitioner has alleged in the Petition that you are the biological father, as adjudicated in Muscogee (Creek) Nation Case No. GD-2008-13. Petitioner alleges that your consent to this adoption should be deemed unnecessary and your parental rights terminated because you failed to pay child support for the child in accordance with your ability during the preceding year and that you failed to establish and/or maintain a significant relationship with the child for a period of six (6) consecutive months out of the last fourteen (14) months immediately preceding the filing of the Petition for Adoption.



YOU ARE, THEREFORE, NOTIFIED THAT THE COURT WILL HEAR EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF AND IN OPPOSITION TO THE GRANTING OF THE APPLICATION AT THE TIME AND PLACE SHOWN ABOVE, WHERE YOU WILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE PRESENT, HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD AT SAID TIME AND PLACE, AND HAVE THE RIGHT TO OBJECT TO THE APPLICATION FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT.

YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR AT SAID HEARING SHALL COMMUNICATE YOUR DECISION NOT TO OPPOSE THE APPLICATION TO DETERMINE THE CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT AND SHALL COMMUNICATE A DENIAL OF YOUR INTEREST IN THE CHILD, WHICH DENIAL MAY RESULT, WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE TO YOU OF THIS OR ANY SUBSEQUENT PROCEEDING, IN THE GRANTING OF THE APPLICATION FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT AND IN THE CHILD'S ADOPTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND STATE OF OKLAHOMA. YOU ARE ALSO NOTIFIED THAT YOUR DUTY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUPPORT OF THE CHILD STILL CONTINUES AFTER YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS HAVE BEEN TERMINATED.

Prepared by:
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN# 543
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165
Kacie R. Cresswell, MCN#568
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizen Legal Services
114 N. Grand Ave, North Lobby
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 756-1112
(918) 756-1113 facsimile



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 OCT 28
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)

In the Matter of the Guardianship)
Of the Person and Estate of)
S. D. B.) CASE NO. GD-2009-44
)
a minor child.)

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN OF MINOR CHILD

TO: UNKNOWN FATHER

On the 28 day of October 2009, a Petition was filed in this Court for the Appointment of Guardian of the minor child, S.D.B., a minor child born out of wedlock at Okmulgee Regional Hospital in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on October 7, 1995, to Tracie Ann Brown, so that a guardian can be appointed for said minor child. Said Petition is set for hearing on the 10th day of December 2009 at the hour of 10:00 O'clock AM/PM before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in District Court in and for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, located at Highway 75 and Loop 56, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447.

This action alleges that the Petitioner is entitled to guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment. You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioner and appear at the above scheduled hearing or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Signed and dated this 28 day of October 2009.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

OBITUARIES

NORMA JEAN BIBLE

OKMULGEE — Norma Jean Bible, 78, longtime resident of Okmulgee, died in Glenpool Thursday, Oct.22, 2009.

She was born Sept. 1, 1931 to Wiley and Mabel (Lewis) Sampson in Morris, Oklahoma. Norma worked and retired from the Okmulgee County Health Department. She was a member of the Grave Creek Indian Baptist Church in Hitchita, Okla.

Bible was preceded in death by her parents, a daughter, Belinda Jean Bible, a brother, Will Sampson, two sisters Vena Mae Randall and Shirley Sampson. Survivors include eight children; Norman Eugene and wife Cynthia Daniel of Muskogee, Sammy Lee Bass of the home, Tsianina and husband Richard Wesley of Preston, Joseph and wife Delana Bass of St. Louis, Mo., Monty Bass of Los Angeles, Cali., Burtis Rand Bible of Tulsa, Emmett Dale Bible of Tulsa, and Teresa Bible Hamilton and husband Damon Hamilton of Glenpool, 24 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren.

Visitation was held Sunday,Oct. 25, 2009 at McClendon-Winters Funeral Home from 3-4 p.m., with wake services the following Sunday at 7 p.m. and the funeral service Monday, Oct. 26, 2009 at 2 p.m., at the Grave Creek Indian Baptist Church with Rev Mitchell Taylor and Rev. Andrew Johnson officiating.

Burial followed in the Grave Creek Indian Cemetery in Hitchita, Oklahoma. Pallbearers will be Joe Bass, Dason Holmes, Gene Daniel, Gerald Deer, Nick Sanders, Dominique James, Damon Hamilton, Cody Bible and Chebon Bass. Honorary will be Eddie Lowe, James Whitecloud, Jed Kitchkommie and

WILLIAM FRASER

PHOENIX — William Larney Fraser (Bill) of Phoenix, Ariz., was born to George and Myrtle Fraser on March 9, 1959 in Henryetta, Okla.

He passed away on September 24, 2009 at the age of 50 years, six months, and 15 days.

He was preceded in death by his father, George Fraser, Sr.; brother, George Fraser, Jr.; Grandparents, Anderson and Elsie Watters and Lem and Mary Fraser.

He is survived by his mother, Myrtle Fraser of Weleetka, OK; brothers, Gary Fraser and wife Carolyn of Buckeye, AZ, Franklin Fraser and wife Kim of Durant, OK; sisters, Doris Armstrong and husband Billy of Checotah, OK, Karen Cooke of Phoenix, AZ, Kathryn Fraser and husband Stanley Zackery of Weleetka, OK, Diane Little and husband Freddie of Okmulgee, OK, and Gail Moore and husband Ken of Weleetka, OK. Also, several aunts and uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and great nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were Ken Moore, Freddie Little, Darrell Crawford, Kevin Crawford, Steve O'Connell, and Donnie Tiger. Honorary Pall Bearers are Stanley Zackery, Donald Crawford, Steven Crawford, Stanley Zackery, Jr., and Brian Moore.

Funeral Services were held at Arbeka Indian Baptist Church in Bryant, OK on October 1, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. Wake services were held at the Arbeka Indian Baptist Church Wednesday evening, September 30, 2009. Interment was held at the Salem Cemetery in Salem, Okla.

TSIANINA LOUISE WESLEY

TULSA — Tsianina Louise "Gena" Wesley, 54, a resident of Preston, Okla. died in Tulsa, on Monday, Oct. 26, 2009. She was born January 18, 1955 in Pawnee, Oklahoma to Lee Bass Jr. and Norma Jean Bible. She worked as a LPN at the Creek Nation Indian Clinic in Okmulgee. Her parents, a sister Belinda Jean Bible, an uncle Will Sampson, two aunts, Vena Mae Randall and Shirley Sampson preceded her in death.

Survivors include her husband Richard Wesley, five daughters; Anissa Wesley and husband Dominic James of Tulsa, Regina Ott of Jenks, Paula Wesley of Okmulgee, Johnnie Sue Wesley of Preston, and Rainey Wesley of Preston, half brothers and sisters; Debbie Primeaux of Shawnee, Nellie Yarholar of Oklahoma City, Susan Bass, Judy Bass Jane Bass, Eric Bass, Dewey Bass all of Cushing, and Gerald Bass of Kansas City. Six grandchildren; Alena James, Tia James, Dominique James, Isaiah Ott, Jordan Ott, and Aiyonna Tecumseh. Eight siblings; Norman Eugene and wife Cynthia Daniel of Muskogee, Sammy Lee Bass of Okmulgee, Joseph and wife Delana Bass of St. Louis, Missouri, Monty Bass of Los Angeles, CA, Burtis Rand Bible of Tulsa, Emmett Dale Bible of Tulsa, and Teresa Bible Hamilton and husband Damon Hamilton of Glenpool, other relatives and friends.

Wake service was held Thursday, 6 p.m., at the McClendon-Winters Funeral Home in Okmulgee. Funeral service Friday, 2 p.m., at the Grave Creek Indian Baptist Church in Hitchita, OK with Rev. Norman E. Daniel officiating. Burial was in the Grave Creek Cemetery. Casketbearers will be Dominic James, Joseph Bass, Jed Kitchkommie, Cody Bible, Dason Homes, Robert Johnson and Elwood Ott. Honorary will be Clarence Johnson, Isaiah Ott, Jordan Ott, Laren Richards, Eddie Lowe, Jerome Townsell, Roley Johnson, and Christopher Bible.

INA HICKS

OKEMAH — Ina Hicks, of Okemah, passed away at her home at the age of 73 on October 3. She was bornin Okfuskee County to Weleyer Roberts and Lucy Roberts on March 8, 1936.

Ina was baptized on April 25, 1943 by Reverend Simon Severs at Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church. She became a women's leader of the church on January 27, 1968. Ina loved her church and spending time with her family. Her hobies included quilting, working crossword puzzles, gardening, cooking, and playing the piano.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two sons, Nelson Hicks and an infant son, one daughter, Nancy Hicks, and three brothers; Willie Roberts, Reverend Harley Roberts, and Reverend Stanley Roberts and two sisters; Susie Gammil and Louisa Deeringwater.

Survivors include her husband of 55 years, Reverend Wilson Hicks of the home. Four daughters; Lucinda Factor and her husband Noah Factor of Okemah, Sarah Morgan and husband Sam Beaver of Okemah, Addie Hicks of Okemah, and Michelle Pigeon and her husband Jeremy Pigeon of Weleetka. Sister, Ladonna Beach of Glenpool, eight grandchildren, Nancy Factor, Daniel Factor and wife Ellie Factor, Eric and Timothy Carreno, Jeremy, Brandon, Commanche, and Noah Beaver. Five great grandchildren; Kaitlyn, Josiah, Isaak, Kolby Factor, and Halee Carreno, and a host of nieces, nephews, and friends.

Interment was at the Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church on Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2009 with Rev. Mitchell Taylor and Rev. Allison Phillips officiating. Burial was at the family cemetery located at the home. Wake serves were held at Schumacher Funeral Home and at Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church. Pallbearers were Wallace Gambler, Steven Randall, Donnie McNac, Jimmy Hicks, Edward Ollie Factor, and Roley Frye.

THANK YOU

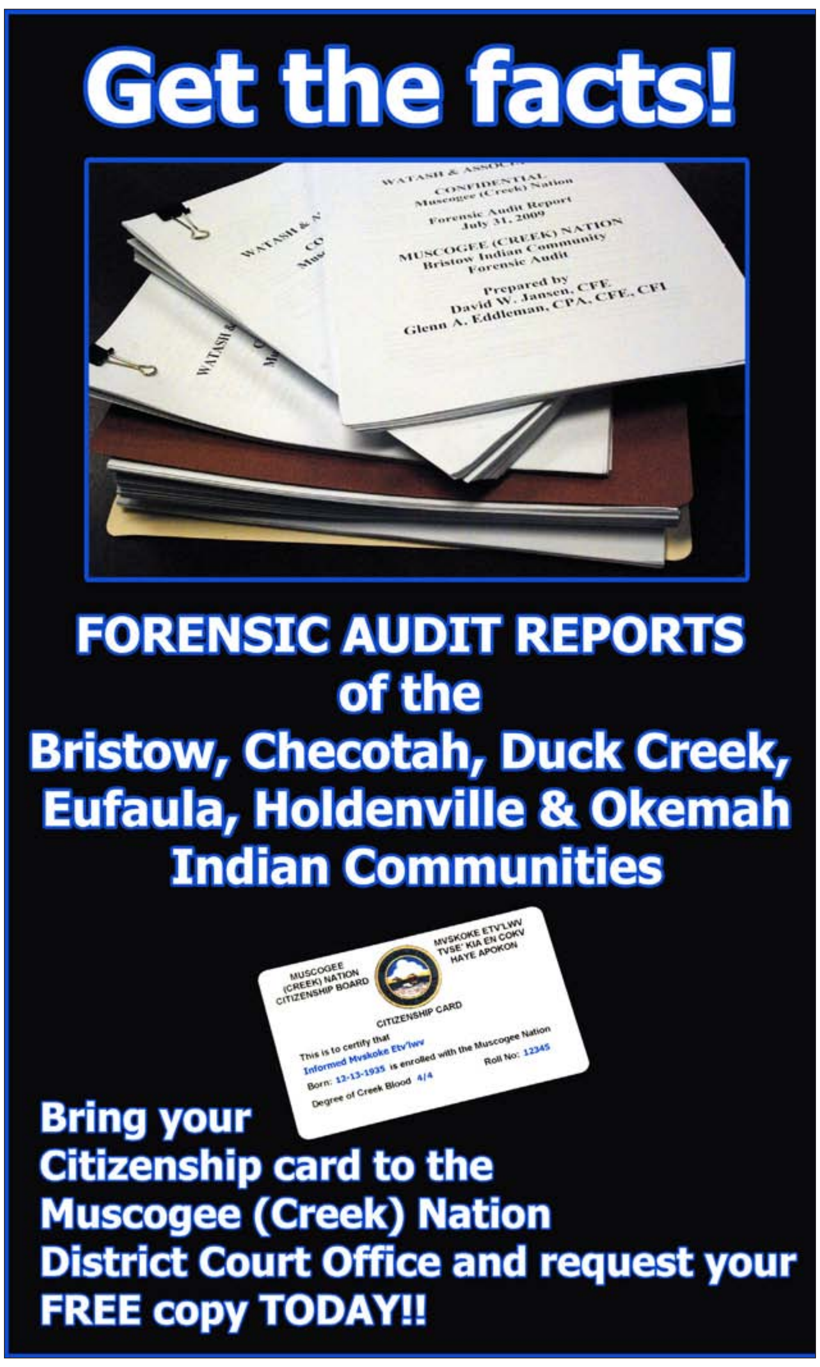
PHOENIX — The Family of William (Bill) Larney Fraser would like to give thanks to MCN Social Services, B.I.A., Lighthorse, and Second Chief Alfred Berryhill.

Their generosity and support during this difficult time is greatly appreciated. Also, The Fraser Family is very thankful to the members of The Arbeka Indian Baptist Church and The Hutchechuppa Indian Baptist Church for providing hospitality and nourishment to the family and guests.

The cards, flowers, prayers, and condolences from friends and family members were a source of strength and comfort for our family. Thank you all very much.

THANK YOU

GLENPOOL — The Family of Ashley Watashe would like to thank the community, Indian Baptist Church, Native American Church, Euchee Ceremonial Grounds, Dripping Springs Church and everyone who helped, donated, and all the prayers and kind words you gave us during our time of sorrow. We greatly appreciated everything that was done. Thank you with love.



Will we ever see another Sam Bradford?

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

NORMAN — Indian Country in Oklahoma held its head up proudly, in the fact that a Native American held one of the most coveted spots in the state for a while.

Sam Bradford recently cut his time at the University of Oklahoma as the starting quarterback for the Sooners from 2007 short due to a shoulder injury. Bradford’s accomplishments are quite well-known; from winning the starting spot after a heated quarterback race, to guiding his team to a 11-1 season and a National Championship showdown last year, setting numerous school and national records and winning college football’s most coveted Individual award-The Heisman Trophy. But where did everyone begin to know about his American Indian heritage?

It was during one of the early games two years ago that ABC sports, which broadcasts a majority of college football games in the fall, will often introduce players on team rosters with not only their starting positions, but personal facts and accomplishments as well, all for the pleasure of the viewer to see on the screen. When Bradford’s information came up, one of the interesting facts about him was that he was Native American. Bradford listed himself a citizen of the ‘Cherokee Nation’ specifically, but that didn’t stop all of Indian Country in taking some pride about a fellow ‘skin’ making the grade, and leading the Oklahoma Sooners on the football gridiron.

The Bradford craze was on after that because many Indians saw that information or gathered it through the grapevine and began to connect with Bradford because of this. They wanted to know where he grew up, who his family was, and if they might get a chance to see him at some Native American event during the year.

there are other Indians currently on the Sooner team, like Derek Shaw who is Osage and has been with the Sooner program for four years and will graduate this spring, but Bradford is the quarterback, the first, number one, the glamor position that gets a lot of attention and that meant a lot to Indian Country. T-shirts were even created about his Native American connection, even Indian girls were touting shirts that read ‘The future Mrs. Sam Bradford.”

As Bradford began to realize his newfound popularity with Native Americans because of his heritage, he began to be asked more questions about his Indian culture and how he felt about it from the general media.

“God has given me a great platform, and my Native American roots extend that platform even more,” said Bradford, “There’s a difference between talking the talk and walking the walk,” Bradford said.

Bradford even visited Sequoyah High School in April and sincerely wanted to know more about his culture, “Obviously, I’m Native American and I’m proud of it, but beyond knowing I have roots with this culture, I don’t know much more than that. For me to come here today, it’s just a way for me to learn about the culture,” Bradford stated.

Bradford talked with many Indian students that day with a motivational talk to children from many cultures, including a few Muscogee (Creek) students.

Bradford’s college football career came to an end in October 2009 when he decided to undergo surgery to repair his shoulder after injuring it twice during the season. His absence at the helm of this historic and popular college program has been felt by all who follow OU football, but now how will Indian Country react to this specifically?

After all, it can truly be said that someone who was willing to identify himself as Indian was quarterbacking the Oklahoma Sooners and we know how important it is for many Indians who place so much pride and connection to athletics and what it means to Native American society in general to be successful.

The OU program has been blessed with great Indian football players in their illustrious history, names like ‘Indian’ Jack Jacobs, who was Creek, ‘Wahoo’ McDaniel, and Sammy Claphan immediately come to mind and it can be said that Bradford now joins this elite group.

Yes, arguments might be made that Bradford doesn’t know a lot about his culture right now, but the same may have been said of other Indian athletes that we chose to honor from the past, we don’t how much they knew of their culture either when they were in their heyday, or how long it took them to know more like Bradford is learning now, who knows? We can choose to become too judgemental, which doesn’t help anyone, does it?

But as far as being considered an ‘Indian’ we as Native Americans also have another test, whether we admit to it or not, that we like to give and that is if they are identifiably an ‘Indian’ and the first prerequisite of that is if they are brown-skinned.

Bradford, who last year, did not know his tribal language (I know because I interviewed him and asked him how he said ‘hello’ in Cherokee and he did not know) is not identifiably ‘Indian’ if you go by the test mentioned above. In fact, if you did not know him or his name and he came up to you and said he was ‘Indian,’ by that test alone you may not believe him.

It’s true that Bradford’s accomplishments should be put in proper perspective and he still has a lot to prove, but often with easy access to 24-hour news and split-second information and the next thing to grab our attention, it’s easy to make a person’s accomplishments yesterday’s news.

For often times, when we get a chance to honor great Indian athletes from times past, we sometimes have to refer to books, or someone who knew someone that remembers talking with that Indian athlete. This is the case even for the most coveted Indian athlete of all - Jim Thorpe, who is best remembered today, through the pages of history.

In three years it will be the 100 year anniversary of Thorpe’s great accomplishments at Stockholm, and what Bradford has accomplished is happening right in front of us today.

Bradford is young, his shoulder should heal just fine and he will enter the professional football draft next year. His accomplishments on the football field should continue and new-found pride at the pro level should follow with him and his American Indian identification should continue.

So do be proud Oklahoma Indian sports fans, we just had an opportunity to witness something great that may not happen for a while.

MOVIE NIGHT!

ATTN: UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS VETERANS

In Honor of Muscogee Veterans
the VASO will be hosting
“MOVIE NIGHT”
(Thursday, 12 Nov 2009)
To Celebrate The Birth Month Of The United States Marine Corps
(10 November 1775)

- Showtime - 1800 Hrs. - Thursday, 15 October 2009
- Location - Veterans Building (MCN Complex)
- Movie - **WINDTALKERS (with Adam Beach and Nicholas Cage)**
- Drinks - Coke & Diet Coke (Free Of Charge)
- Chow - Popcorn (Free Of Charge)
- Smoking Lamp is Lit
- Price of Admission - Marine Corps Veterans must wear their MCN Veterans Vest (If you do not have a vest bring in your DD-214 to be measured for a MCN Veterans vest).
- Muscogee Marine Corps Veterans are now allowed to bring one guest (Please limit to only one guest)
- **“Movie Night”** is for Muscogee Veterans only (Plus one guest)
- Any questions call Shawn Taryole at the MCN VASO (918) 732-7745

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VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION

GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION I. T.
MVSKOKE SULETAWVLKE ESTOFIS EKVNV HOMVN SAPAKLEARES
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD 1790
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 1775
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA MCMXLVII

TUESDAY, 10 NOVEMBER 2009

All Muscogee Veterans are encouraged to attend our tribe's Veterans Day celebration at the Veterans building, Muscogee (Creek) Nation complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

- **1000** **Division formation**
- **1015** **Statues dedication**
  - **Women Veterans statue**
  - **LTC Childers (Medal of Honor WWII)**
- **1030** **Open house**
- **1100** **Chow**

Please call
Ken Davis (918) 732-7739,
Mrs. Fannie Barnett (918) 732-7744
or Shawn Taryole (918) 732-7745
to log in your attendance. Mvto.

EHOLE — FROST MONTH

THE MNN

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Volume 2, Issue 10 www.themuscogeecreeknation.com November 2009

Rebecca Landsberry

Letter from the Editor:

Hensci readers!

My apologies if you are receiving the *Extra Edition* a few days late this month. With the passing of National Council Rep. Ronald Cleghorn, we held the press date back a day later than usual. We send out condolences to all family and friends.

November celebrates our Native American Heritage in addition to National Diabetes Awareness month.

This year's theme is 'Celebrating Tribal Nations: America's Great Partners' and earlier this month, President Barack Obama held a historic meeting with tribal leaders from every nation in order to discuss issues of importance to Indian Country.

One of the reoccurring issues that seems to dominate all tribal nations is the dreaded D-word, diabetes. I have had the opportunity to visit with a few of our incredibly talented staff that make up the Diabetes Programs and they are diligently working each day to combat this disease.

It's ironic that the first step to prevention is to literally take more steps. I recently joined the Walking Program and am trying to get into the habit of reporting my less-than-impressive-numbers so far. Now if I can only lay off the deviled eggs and tabouli at Thanksgiving this year... or maybe I'll just walk around the table a couple hundred more times. Happy Holidays!

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

- Legal Notice

DV 2009-123

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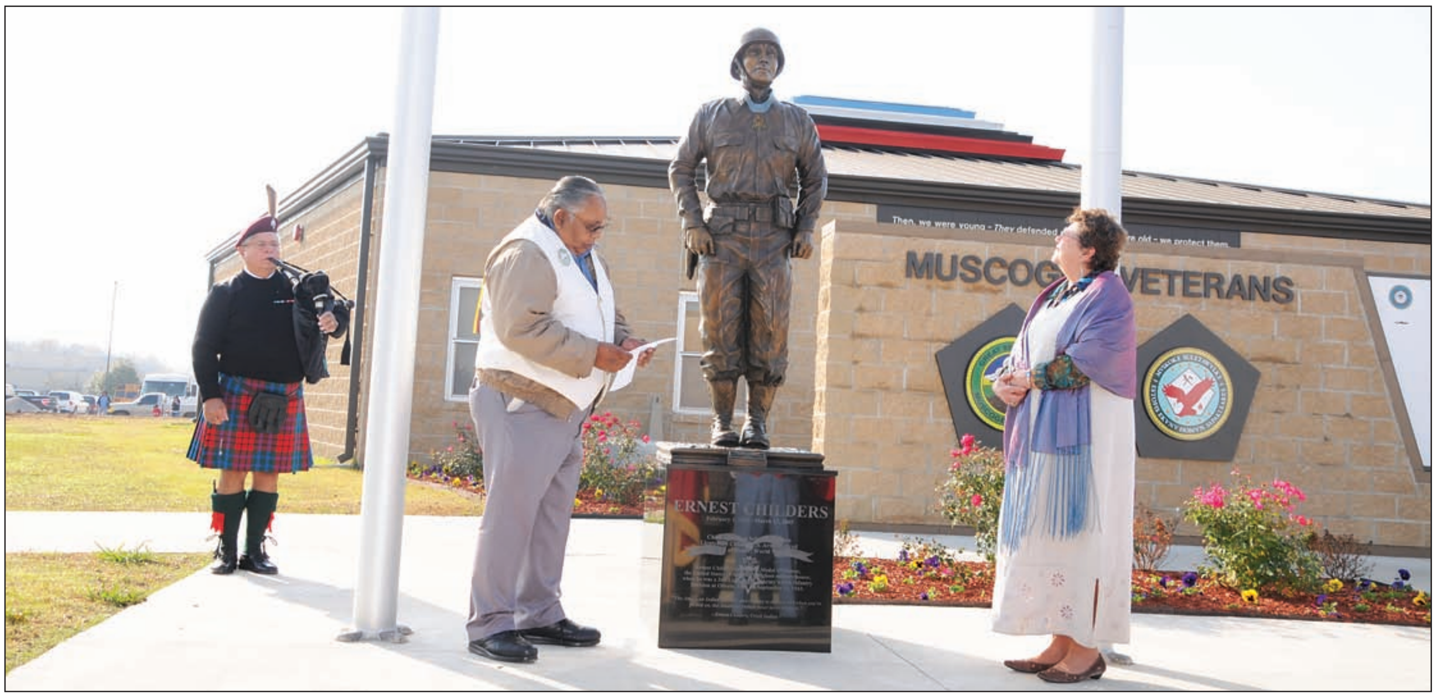
- Warrior's Showcase Shootout

7th annual event set for Nov. 27-29

SEE PAGE 7

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HONORS OUR HEROS

PAST AND PRESENT



MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Pictured above from left to right are attendees of the 2009 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veterans' Day Celebration: Ken Pharaoh who played the bagpipes at the ceremony, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Second Chief Alfred Berryhill and Yolanda Elaine Childers, daughter of decorated WW II veteran Ernest Childers whose likeness is portrayed in the bronze statue located in front of the Veteran Affairs Service Office at the capitol complex in Okmulgee, Okla.

Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Veterans' Affairs Service Office held its annual Veteran's Day celebration Nov. 11, 2009. In addition to the traditional celebration which consisted of display of flags representing each branch of the military, a statue of Ernest Childers was unveiled.

The veterans of the Muscogee Nation from each branch assembled for the ceremony. Veterans stood side by side on the lawns of the Veteran's building honorably displaying the branch of their service. A moment of silence ensued, in which those assembled paid respects to those who, past and present, have selflessly served their country.

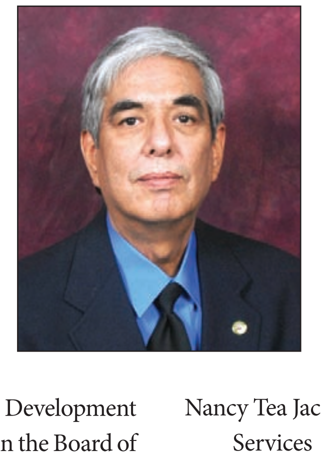
Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Second Chief, Alfred Berryhill, lead the gathering in a prayer. Shortly after, the statue of Ernest Childers was revealed to the crowd.

SEE VETERANS - PAGE 5

Muscogee (Creek) Nation mourns passing of National Council Rep. Ronald Cleghorn

Media Release
MCN Public Relations

OKMULGEE — On November 18, 2009, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation lowered the flags half-staff due to the passing of National Council Rep. Ron Cleghorn at the age of 59. Rep. Cleghorn served five sessions as a National Council Representative for Tulsa District, four of which were for Seat C and most currently for Seat A.



He has served as the Tribal Affairs Committee Chairperson, Business & Governmental Committee, Community Services & Cultural Committee and was currently serving on the Human Development Committee. Formerly, he served on the Board of Directors for the Tulsa Creek Indian Community. To better knowledge himself, Ron attended the Gaming Operations Authority Board and Health Board meetings. Being raised in the Tulsa area for most of his years, Ron grew up personally knowing many of the Tulsa District tribal citizens.

Mr. Cleghorn is of the Sweet Potato Clan and belongs to the New Tulsa Ceremonial Ground. Mr. Cleghorn has 2 brothers, Robert and Thomas Cleghorn; nephew, Jason Grant; parents, the late Irene Jacobs Cleghorn and James G. Cleghorn; grandparents, the late John Alexander Jacobs and Nancy Tea Jacobs.

Services for Ron Cleghorn are still pending. For more information, please contact the National Council Office at (918) 732-7966.

Special Election passes 11 of 12 constitutional amendments

Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation voters recently passed 12 of the 13 proposed amendments to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution in a Special Election held earlier this month on Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009.

Run-off seats for the National Council were also determined for Tulsa, Okfuskee and Okmulgee Districts.

For Tulsa District Seat F, Incumbent Kara Medina took 246 votes and 55.03 percent of the votes over Carol McHenry-Williams' 201 and 44.97 percent.

SEE ELECTION - PAGE 3

Muscogee Nation News
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Reporter - Starla Bush
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Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Proclamation calls for Special Election Nov. 30

• Filing period for vacant National Council Tulsa District Nov. 30-Dec. 2, 2009

Proclamation
MCN Executive Branch

OKMULGEE — WHEREAS On November 18, 2009, National Council Tulsa District Representative Ronald Cleghorn passed away; and,

WHEREAS Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code Annotated Title 19, § 9-101, states that when a vacancy occurs in an elected office other than the Office of the Principal Chief or the Office of the Second Chief, "a Special Election shall be called in the same manner as prescribed for that of the Second Chief ... "; and,

WHEREAS Article V, § 1(c), of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation states that if there is a vacancy in the Office of the Second Chief, that an election shall "be held within sixty (60) days to fill the office ... "; and,

WHEREAS In accordance with Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code Annotated Title 19, § 9102,

I, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, call a Special Election to fill the National Council Tulsa

District Seat A vacated by the passing of Ronald Cleghorn by issuing this Proclamation and filing said Proclamation with the Election Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT in accordance with Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code

Annotated Title 19, § 9-103, the following dates shall apply to the Special Election: Filing Period shall be Monday, November 30, 2009, Tuesday, December 1, 2009 and Wednesday, December 2, 2009.

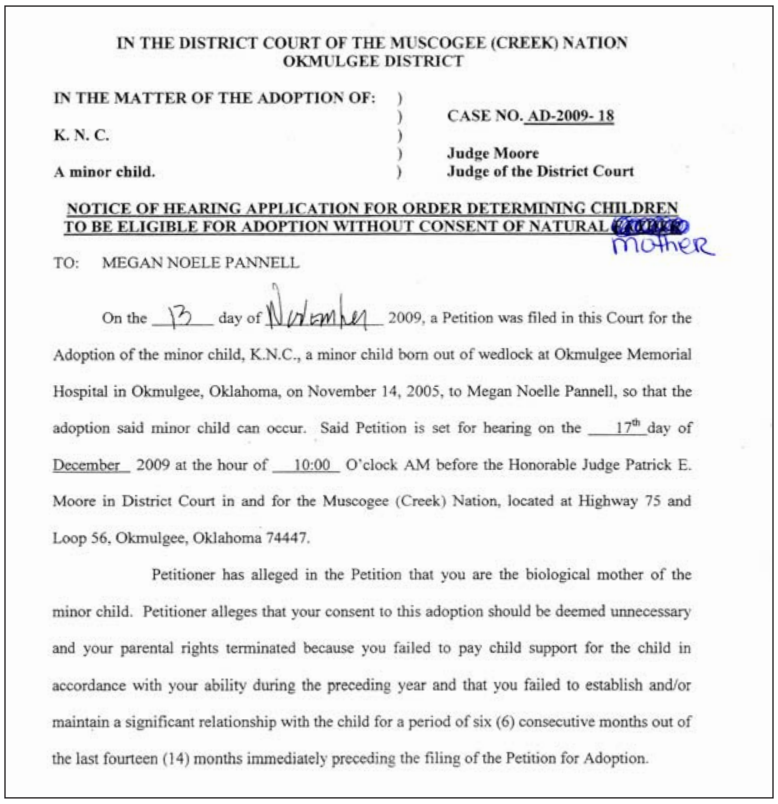
Special Primary Election shall be held on Saturday, December 26, 2009. Special General Election shall be held on Saturday, January 16, 2010, if necessary.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED THAT in accordance with Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code Annotated Title 19, § 9-104, the Special Election shall be conducted under the provisions of Title 19 that are applicable to Primary and General Elections.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the successful candidate shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term of the vacant office.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED THAT I encourage all Absentee Voters of the Tulsa District to contact the Election Board Office immediately to verify their addresses.

Legal Notices (continued on Page 5)



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF:
K. N. C.
A minor child.

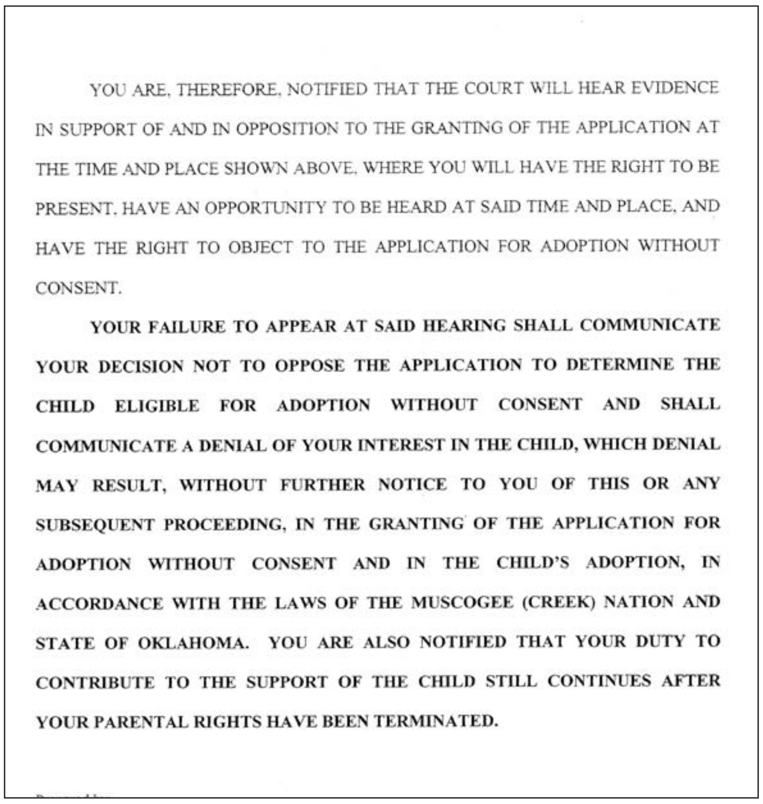
CASE NO. AD-2009- 18
Judge Moore
Judge of the District Court

NOTICE OF HEARING APPLICATION FOR ORDER DETERMINING CHILDREN TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT OF NATURAL mother

TO: MEGAN NOELE PANNELL

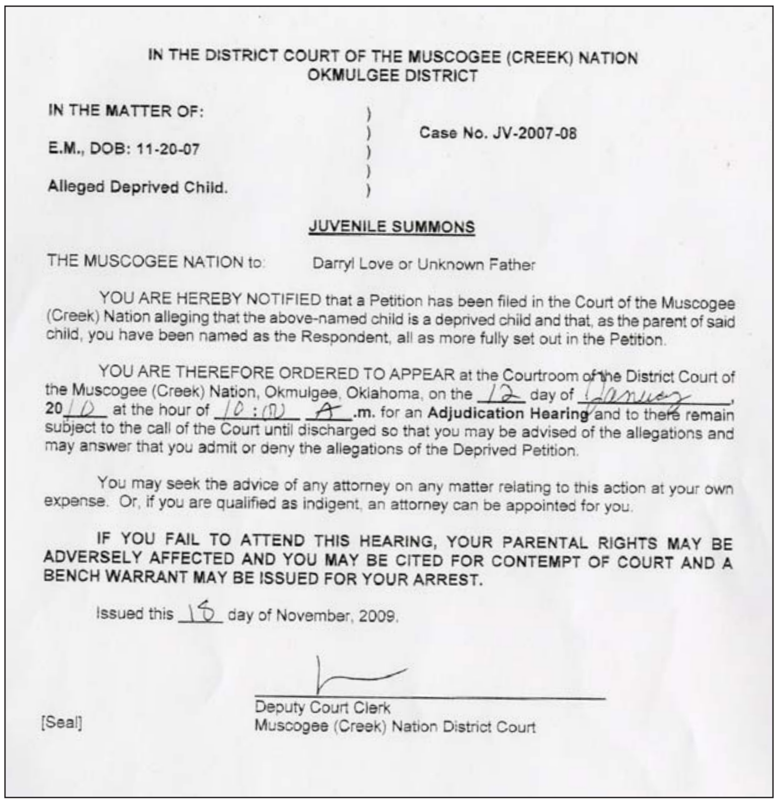
On the 13 day of November 2009, a Petition was filed in this Court for the Adoption of the minor child, K.N.C., a minor child born out of wedlock at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on November 14, 2005, to Megan Noelle Pannell, so that the adoption said minor child can occur. Said Petition is set for hearing on the 17th day of December 2009 at the hour of 10:00 O'clock AM before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in District Court in and for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, located at Highway 75 and Loop 56, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447.

Petitioner has alleged in the Petition that you are the biological mother of the minor child. Petitioner alleges that your consent to this adoption should be deemed unnecessary and your parental rights terminated because you failed to pay child support for the child in accordance with your ability during the preceding year and that you failed to establish and/or maintain a significant relationship with the child for a period of six (6) consecutive months out of the last fourteen (14) months immediately preceding the filing of the Petition for Adoption.



YOU ARE, THEREFORE, NOTIFIED THAT THE COURT WILL HEAR EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF AND IN OPPOSITION TO THE GRANTING OF THE APPLICATION AT THE TIME AND PLACE SHOWN ABOVE, WHERE YOU WILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE PRESENT, HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD AT SAID TIME AND PLACE, AND HAVE THE RIGHT TO OBJECT TO THE APPLICATION FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT.

YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR AT SAID HEARING SHALL COMMUNICATE YOUR DECISION NOT TO OPPOSE THE APPLICATION TO DETERMINE THE CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT AND SHALL COMMUNICATE A DENIAL OF YOUR INTEREST IN THE CHILD, WHICH DENIAL MAY RESULT, WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE TO YOU OF THIS OR ANY SUBSEQUENT PROCEEDING, IN THE GRANTING OF THE APPLICATION FOR ADOPTION WITHOUT CONSENT AND IN THE CHILD'S ADOPTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND STATE OF OKLAHOMA. YOU ARE ALSO NOTIFIED THAT YOUR DUTY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUPPORT OF THE CHILD STILL CONTINUES AFTER YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS HAVE BEEN TERMINATED.



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:
E.M., DOB: 11-20-07
Alleged Deprived Child.

Case No. JV-2007-08

JUVENILE SUMMONS

THE MUSCOGEE NATION to: Darryl Love or Unknown Father

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation alleging that the above-named child is a deprived child and that, as the parent of said child, you have been named as the Respondent, all as more fully set out in the Petition.

YOU ARE THEREFORE ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 12 day of January, 2010 at the hour of 10:00 A.m. for an **Adjudication Hearing** and to there remain subject to the call of the Court until discharged so that you may be advised of the allegations and may answer that you admit or deny the allegations of the Deprived Petition.

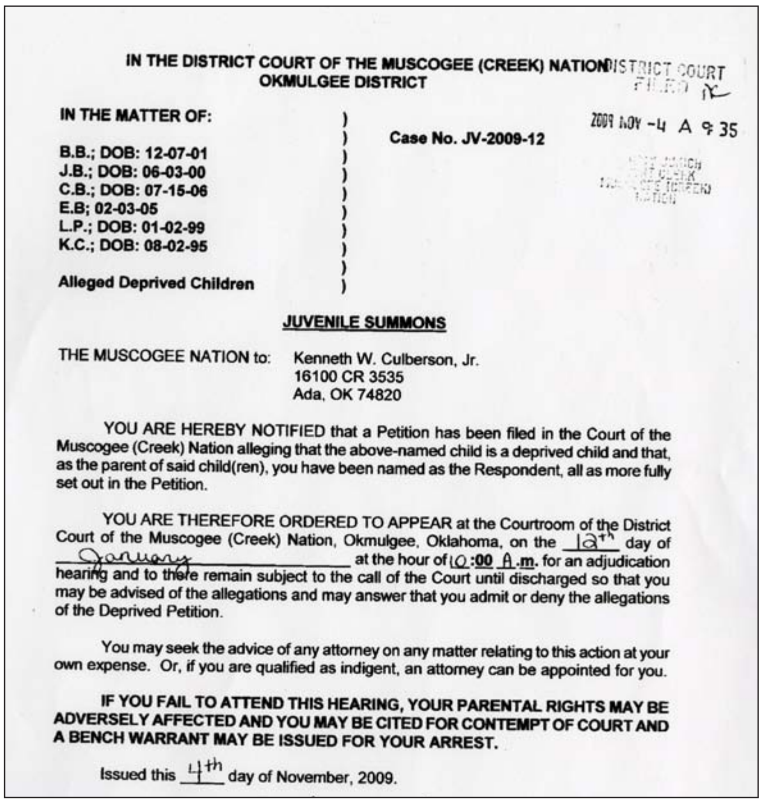
You may seek the advice of any attorney on any matter relating to this action at your own expense. Or, if you are qualified as indigent, an attorney can be appointed for you.

IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THIS HEARING, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND YOU MAY BE CITED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT AND A BENCH WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST.

Issued this 18 day of November, 2009.

[Seal]

Deputy Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 NOV -4 A 9:35

IN THE MATTER OF:
B.B.; DOB: 12-07-01
J.B.; DOB: 06-03-00
C.B.; DOB: 07-15-06
E.B; 02-03-05
L.P.; DOB: 01-02-99
K.C.; DOB: 08-02-95
Alleged Deprived Children

Case No. JV-2009-12

JUVENILE SUMMONS

THE MUSCOGEE NATION to:
Kenneth W. Culberson, Jr.
16100 CR 3535
Ada, OK 74820

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation alleging that the above-named child is a deprived child and that, as the parent of said child(ren), you have been named as the Respondent, all as more fully set out in the Petition.

YOU ARE THEREFORE ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 12th day of January at the hour of 10:00 A.m. for an adjudication hearing and to there remain subject to the call of the Court until discharged so that you may be advised of the allegations and may answer that you admit or deny the allegations of the Deprived Petition.

You may seek the advice of any attorney on any matter relating to this action at your own expense. Or, if you are qualified as indigent, an attorney can be appointed for you.

IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THIS HEARING, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND YOU MAY BE CITED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT AND A BENCH WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST.

Issued this 4th day of November, 2009.

Contact Josh Slane by phone at (918) 732 - 7638 or by e-mail at JSlane@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Election

Continued from Page 1

For Okfuskee District Seat B, Incumbent Lena Wind was also reelected by the closest determination of the General Election. Wind took 174 votes and 50.14 percent with Mary L. (Severs) Lee less than one percent behind with 173 and 49.86 percent of the vote.

For Okmulgee District Seat D, Pearl M. Thomas gained 418 votes and 62.48 percent of the vote over Incumbent Carmin Tecumseh-Williams who finished with 37.52 percent and 251 votes.

The following are results of the Special Election:

A-18 - NOT PASSED
YES - 1213 / 49.57%
NO - 1234 / 50.43%

[A18]; Amending Existing Article III §1; This Constitution is hereby amended to state and require that the Principal Chief shall appoint one member to the Citizenship Board every other year, and the National Council shall appoint one member the next year, then every other year, all subject to majority approval of tile National Council.

A45 - PASSED
YES - 1706 / 69.55%
NO - 747 / 30.45%

[A45]; Amending Existing Article V §1 (e); This Constitution is hereby amended to state that the oath of office of the Principal Chief is hereby amended to read "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute The Office of the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and will, to the best of my ability, uphold the Constitution and the Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation."

A46 - PASSED
YES - 1713 / 69/78%
NO - 742 / 30.22%

[A46]; Amending Existing Article V §1(f); This Constitution is hereby amended to state that no person shall be eligible for the office of Principal Chief or Second Chief who has a felony conviction from a court of competent jurisdiction. Neither shall any person with a felony conviction from a court of competent jurisdiction be appointed to hold any appointive office established by, or under, this Constitution.

A51 - PASSED
YES -1441 / 58.89%
NO - 1006 / 41.44%

[A51]; Amending Existing Article V §3; Article V §3 is hereby Amended to state and require that,

a) The Principal Chief shall prepare the annual budget request and supplements thereto.

b) Budget requests, other appropriations and amendments thereto shall be considered by the National Council with the same limitations and rules as any other bill.

c) The Principal Chief shall administer appropriated funds with the advice and consent of the National Council.

A59 - PASSED
YES -1468 / 60.39%
NO - 963 / 39.61%

[A59]; Amending Existing Article VI; This Constitution is hereby Amended to state that the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation reserve to themselves the power to propose laws, and to enact or reject the same at the polls independent of the National Council, and also reserve power at their own option to approve or reject at the polls any act of the National Council.

The First Power reserved by the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is the Initiative, and eight (8) percent of voters who voted in the last General Election for the office of Principal Chief shall have the right to propose any legislative measure, and every such Initiative Petition shall include the full text of the measure so proposed.

Initiative Petitions shall be filed with the Secretary of the Nation and addressed to the Principal Chief who shall submit the same to the citizen voters at a Special Election, unless there is a General Election within 90 days.

The National Council shall make suitable provisions for carrying into effect the provision of this Amendment.

The veto power of the Principal Chief shall not extend to measures voted on by the People.

Measures referred to the People by initiative shall take effect and be in force when approved by a majority of the votes cast thereon and not otherwise.

A60 - PASSED
YES - 1433 / 58.56%
NO - 1014 / 41.44%

[A60]; Amending Existing Article VI; This Constitution is hereby Amended to state and require that if any National Council meeting is cancelled for lack of a quorum, each absent member of that committee shall be personally fined $175.00 for the cancelled meeting. The Speaker of the National Council shall be responsible for the collection of fines.

A67 - PASSED
YES - 1292 / 53.39%
NO - 1128 / 46.61%

[A67]; Amending Existing Article VI §2; Article VI §2 is hereby Amended to state that all legislative power herein shall be vested in the Muscogee (Creek) National Council which shall consist of one (1) House with two (2) Representatives from each district, and further, that the number of National Council Representatives shall be set at a maximum of 16 members and additional seats may not be added without constitutional amendment.

A105 - PASSED
YES - 1350 / 57.50%
NO - 998 / 42.50%

[A105]; Amending Existing Article IX, §2; Article IX §2 is hereby repealed.

A112 - PASSED
YES - 1685 / 70.83%
NO - 694 / 29.17%

[A112], NEW; Protection of Cultural Sites and Objects; This Constitution is hereby Amended to establish and require that the government of the Muscogee Nation shall protect individual burials and cemeteries which contain burials of Muscogee people. The tribal government shall participate in the reburial of disinterred Muscogee burials and all objects removed from their original burial. Burials shall be reinterred at or in close proximity to the place from which they were disinterred, and in a place protected by a Conservation Easement in the name of the Muscogee Nation in perpetuity. Objects of cultural patrimony, except those in possession of a Citizen or ceremonial ground, shall be protected by law as tribal common property and as tribal intellectual property. The jurisdiction of the Muscogee Nation in enforcing this Amendment shall include: the cultural perimeter of Muskoghean peoples in the southeastern United States, routes of removal, the routes and camps of the exodus to Kansas and Texas caused by the United States Civil War, and those lands described by the Treaty of 1833.

A113 - PASSED
YES - 1258 / 53.44%
NO - 1096 / 46.56%

[A113]; NEW; This Constitution is hereby Amended to establish REFERENDUM AND RECALL;

Section 1. The Muscogee Creek People may propose and enact laws by the initiative or reject acts of the Muscogee Creek Nation National Council by the referendum.

Section 2. An initiative or referendum is proposed by an application containing the bill to be initiated or the act to be referred. The application shall be signed by not less than one hundred (100) qualified Muscogee Creek Nation voters as sponsors and shall be filed with the person authorized by the Muscogee Creek Nation law to receive the same. The application shall be certified, if found in proper form. Denial of certification shall be subject to judicial review.

Section 3. After certification of the application, a petition containing a summary of the subject matter shall be prepared by the person authorized by Muscogee Creek Nation law to do so for circulation by the sponsors. If signed by qualified Muscogee Creek Nation voters who are equal in number to at least fifteen (15) percent of the electorate, it may be filed.

Section 4. An initiative petition may be filed at any time. The person authorized Muscogee Creek Nation law to do so shall prepare a ballot title and proposition summarizing the proposed law, and shall place them on the ballot for the first election held after adjournment of legislative session following the filing. If before the election, substantially the same measure has been enacted, the petition is void.

Section 5. A referendum petition may be filed only within ninety (90) days after adjournment of the legislative session at which the act was passed. The person authorized by Muscogee Creek Nation law to do so shall prepare a ballot title and proposition summarizing the act and shall place them on the ballot for the first election held after adjournment of that session.

Section 6. If a majority of the votes cast on tile proposition favor its adoption, tile initiated measure is enacted. If a majority of tile votes cast on tile proposition favor tile refection of an act referred, it is rejected. The person authorized by Muscogee Creek Nation law to do so shall certify tile election returns.

An initiated law becomes effective ninety (90) days after certification, is not subject to veto by the Principal Chief, and may not be repealed by the Muscogee Creek Nation National Council within two (2) years of the effective date. It may be amended at any time. An act rejected by referendum is void thirty (30) days after certification. Additional procedures for the initiative and referendum may be prescribed by Muscogee Creek Nation law.

SEE ELECTION - PAGE 4

Committee Meetings

Business / Governmental

Steve Bruner - Chairman
Pete Beaver - Vice-Chair
Larry Cahwee
Selina Jayne-Dornan
David Nichols
Travis Scott
Paula Willits

Meetings: Thursday prior to Planning Session at 6 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Tribal Affairs

Bill S. Fife - Chairman
Sam Alexander - Vice-Chair
David Hill
Adam Jones
Eddie LaGrone
Carmin Tecumseh

Meetings: Third Tuesday at 5:30 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Human Development

Johnnie Greene - Chairman
Darrell Proctor - Vice Chair
Shirlene Ade
James Jennings
Keeper Johnson

Meetings: 1st Monday at 7 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Community Services / Cultural

Cherrah Quiett - Chairman
Roger Barnett- Vice Chair
Terrie Anderson
Robert Hufft
Kara Medina
Lena Wind

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m., in the Council chambers.

Community Calendar

• 2009 C&FS Angel Tree

OKMULGEE — Children & Family services would like remind everyone that this year there are an estimated 150-200 children who be without their families and friends throughout the holiday season. With this in mind the C&FS program is asking for assistance in making their Christmas special through the Angel Tree Project.

Those wishing to participate may make donations of gifts or monetary donations. All donations or gifts need to be unwrapped and turned in by Friday Dec. 4 to Children & Family Services. This will allow time for the gifts to be wrapped and purchased.

The goal is to have all the gifts ready and delivered by Christmas Eve. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact April Welch or Cynthia Freeman at Children & Family services, at 918-732-7869.

• Notice from MCN Food Distribution Center

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Creek Nation Food Distribution Center is hosting tailgating sites throughout each month. At these sites the staff will take applications, recertify clients, and distribute commodities. This allows people to be on the program without having to drive to the distribution center in Okmulgee.

Benefits may be available to citizens living within the Creek Nation boundaries, with the exception of residents of Broken Arrow, Muskogee, Sands Springs, and Tulsa.

Contact the Food Distributions Program an request an application be mailed, come by the office, or download an application on the website at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov. For more information contact 918-756-3002.

Election

Continued from Page 3

Section 7. The initiative shall not be used to dedicate revenues, make or repeal appropriations, create courts, define the jurisdiction of courts or prescribe their rules, or enact local or special legislation. The referendum shall not be applied to dedications of revenue, to appropriations, or to laws necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health or safety of the Muscogee Creek People. No article, section, or provision of the Muscogee Creek Nation Constitution shall be amended except as provided in this Constitution.

Section 8. All elected and/or appointed officials of the Muscogee Creek Nation are subject to recall by the qualified Muscogee Creek voters. The grounds for recall of a judicial officer shall be established by the Muscogee Creek Nation Supreme Court. The grounds for recall of an officer other than a judge are serious malfeasance or nonfeasance, during the term of office, in the performance of the duties of the office or a conviction, during the term of office, of a felony or conviction of a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude. After certification of the Application, as set forth in Section 2 of this Article, a petition for recall shall be prepared by the person authorized by Muscogee Creek Nation law to do so and the petition shall set forth the specific conduct that may warrant recall. A recall petition may not be issued for circulation by the sponsors until tile Muscogee Creek Nation Supreme Court has determined that the facts alleged in the petition are true and are sufficient grounds for issuing a recall petition. A recall petition must be signed by qualified Muscogee Creek voters who are equal in number to at least fifteen (15) percent of the electorate. Upon a determination by the person authorized by Muscogee Creek Nation law to so determine that a petition has been signed by at least the minimum number of the eligible voters, a recall election must be conducted in the manner provided by Muscogee Creek Nation law. The incumbent shall continue to perform the duties of the office until the recall election results are officially declared and, unless the incumbent declines or no longer qualifies, the incumbent shall without filing be deemed to have filed for the recall election. A recall election may not occur less than six (6) months before the end of the officer's term. An officer who is removed from office by a recall election or who resigns from office after a petition for recall issues may not be appointed to fill the vacancy that is created. Additional procedures and grounds for recall may be prescribed by the Muscogee Creek Nation National Council.

A114 - PASSED
YES - 1516 / 64.24%
NO - 844 / 35.76%

[A114], NEW; Litigation Between Tribal Officers; This Constitution is hereby Amended to establish and require that all litigation between tribal officers shall originate in the District Court of the Nation, with the right of appeal to the Supreme Court. All questions of fact shall be determined by jury trial.

A115 - PASSED
YES - 1653 / 69.92%
NO - 711 30.08%

[A115]; Establishment of the Board of Regents of the College of the Muscogee Nation; This Constitution is hereby Amended to establish the Board of Regents for the College of the Muscogee Nation. The governing body of the Mvskoke Etvlwv Nakcokv Mvhakv Svhulwecvt, otherwise known in the English language as the College of the Muscogee Nation, is hereby vested in the Board of Regents consisting of five members to be appointed by the Principal Chief with the advice and consent of the National Council. The term of said Regents shall be in accordance with the rules set forth in the Charter and the By-laws of the Mvskoke Etvlwv Nacokv Mvhakv Svhulwecvt, the College of the Muscogee Nation. The exception is that the appointed member of the Board of Regents in office at the time of the adoption of this Amendment as provided by law at the time of this Amendment's ratification shall continue in office during the term for which he or she was appointed, and thereafter as provided herein. Members of the Board of Regents of the Mvskoke Etvlwv Nacokv Mvhakv Svhulwecvt, the College of the Muscogee Nation, shall be subject to removal from office only as provided by law for the removal of elective officers not liable to impeachment.

Editor's note: The following is the text from the Ex Parte Temporary Restraining Order filed in the Supreme Court Wed., Nov. 18, 2009 and received from the Office of the Principal Chief.

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SUPREME COURT
CASE NO. 2009-10
EX PARTE TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION NATIONAL COUNCIL, and ROBERT TREPP, an individual Muscogee (Creek) tribal citizen, and DOES 1-10 Inclusive
Petitioners
v.
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) ELECTION BOARD, A.D. ELLIS, in his capacity as Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION COMMISSION,
Respondents

On November 13, 2009, Petitioners filed their "Ex Parte Application for Temporary Restraining Order and Order to Show Cause Regarding Preliminary Injunction and Expedited Discovery" ("Application). In support of its Application, Petitioners filed two Declarations and a Memorandum in Support of Petitioners' Application. These filings allege a number of procedural errors relating to the manner in which a number of the Constitutional Amendments approved by voters in the November 2, 2009 Special Election were drafted and presented.

Petitioners seek, among other things, to "preclude the [Election] Board from certifying the results of the Special Election conducted on November 7, 2009 ...."

As no Certificate of Service was filed with these materials, it is unclear whether all named Respondents were properly served in this matter. Notwithstanding this potential defect in service, this Court recognizes the utility in addressing certain issues raised by Petitioners prior to the Election Board's certification of the results of the Special Election.

Therefore, in the interest of allowing all named Parties the opportunity to voice their respective positions regarding Petitioners' Application prior to final certification of the results of the November 7, 2009 Special Election, this Court finds it necessary to issue a temporary restraining order forestalling the Election Board's certification of such results.

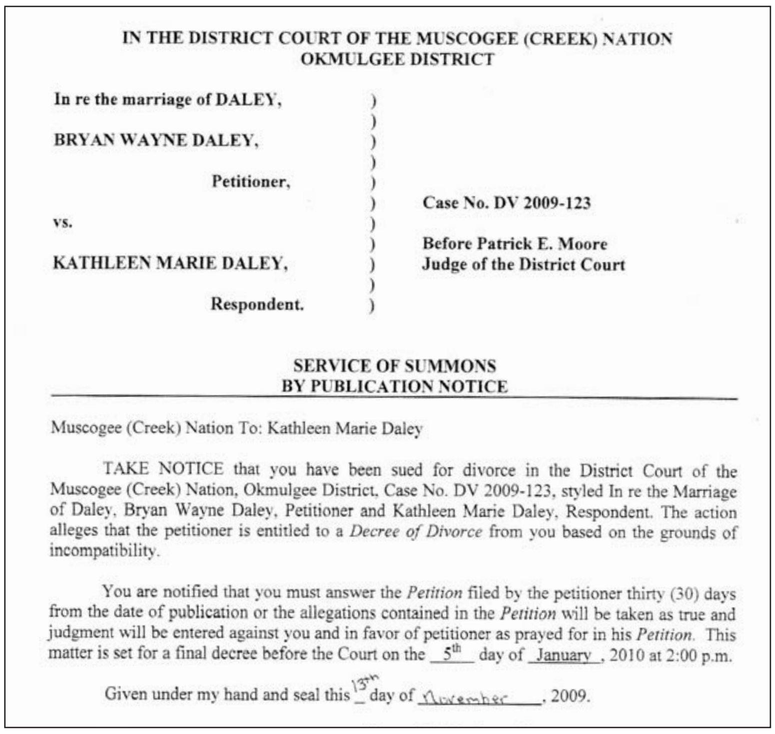
THEREFORE, IT lS ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that an Ex Parte Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) is hereby issued enjoining the MCN Election Board, and those acting in joint concert with this, from certifying or otherwise asserting or claiming as valid the vote of the election held on November 7,2009 Special Election on the Constitution

Amendments, until further, notice of this Court.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that all named parties have the opportunity to submit to this Court letter briefs of no more than five (5) pages long by November 30,2009 summarizing their respective positions regarding whether this Court's TRO in this matter should expire or remain in place pending additional argument and/or presentations of facts. Submitted letter briefs should address service of process, this Court's jurisdiction, ripeness of the issues presented in Petitioners' Application, Petitioners' standing, and any other relevant threshold issues.

Tulsa Creek Indian Community
Christmas Bazaar
Saturday, December 5, 2009
9 a.m.- 2 p.m.
Over 15 Arts & Crafts
Vendors available
~Biscuits & Gravy for breakfast~
&
~Indian Tacos for lunch @ 11 a.m.~
For more information Please contact:
Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center
8611 S. Union Ave ~ Tulsa, OK 74132
(918)294-2464
or visit: tcic-online.com
50/50
Free to the Public
Concession will be available
Door Prizes

Legal Notices (continued from Page 2)



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the marriage of DALEY,

BRYAN WAYNE DALEY,

Petitioner,

vs.

KATHLEEN MARIE DALEY,

Respondent.

Case No. DV 2009-123

Before Patrick E. Moore
Judge of the District Court

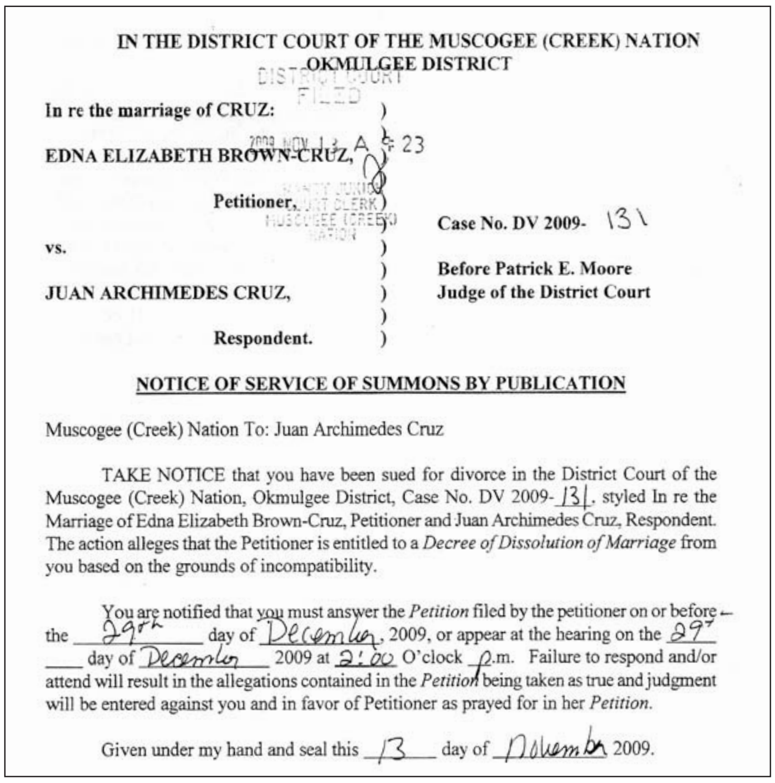
SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Kathleen Marie Daley

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV 2009-123, styled In re the Marriage of Daley, Bryan Wayne Daley, Petitioner and Kathleen Marie Daley, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Divorce* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner thirty (30) days from the date of publication or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in his *Petition*. This matter is set for a final decree before the Court on the 5th day of January, 2010 at 2:00 p.m.

Given under my hand and seal this 13th day of November, 2009.



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 NOV 13 A 8:23
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

In re the marriage of CRUZ:

EDNA ELIZABETH BROWN-CRUZ,

Petitioner,

vs.

JUAN ARCHIMEDES CRUZ,

Respondent.

Case No. DV 2009- 131

Before Patrick E. Moore
Judge of the District Court

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Juan Archimedes Cruz

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV 2009-131. styled In re the Marriage of Edna Elizabeth Brown-Cruz, Petitioner and Juan Archimedes Cruz, Respondent. The action alleges that the Petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner on or before the 29th day of December, 2009, or appear at the hearing on the 29th day of December 2009 at 2:00 O'clock p.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 13 day of November 2009.

EXECUTIVE LENDING
MORTGAGE & FINANCE, LLC
YOUR NATIVE AMERICAN 184 SPECIALIST

ALSO SPECIALIZING IN:
✓ VA CONVENTIONAL AND U.S. RURAL DEVELOPMENT GOVERNMENT LOANS
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✓ FREE ASSISTANCE WITH CREDIT CLEAN UP & REPAIR

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EXECUTIVE LENDING MORTGAGE & FINANCE LLC
KURT WILSON
5840 S. MEMORIAL DR., STE. 203 ~ TULSA, OK 74145
OFFICE: (918) 499-1591
OFFICE FAX: (918) 499-1712

Then, we were young - They defended us. Now, They are old - we protect them.
MUSCOGEE VETERANS

MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Pictured above are Muscogee (Creek) Nation veterans who attended the festivities at the annual Veterans' Day Celebration held Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2009 on the capitol complex

Veterans

Continued from Page 1

The statue is proudly positioned at the main entrance of the MCN Veteran's Building, along with other tributes to the Nations service men and women.

The MCN Veteran's Building is in itself a monument to veterans which enthusiastically managed by Muscogee (Creek) Veteran Ken Davis. Inside the facility is an open air memorial service wall which displays the names of those brave soldiers who gave their lives during the major American wars. The center piece of the display is a floor arrangement which displays the seals of all the branches of the military.

The circular building also boasts a complete walk around display case hallway, which is filled with various photographs and the personal memorabilia of individual soldiers. Many of the attendees at the Veteran's Day celebration took the time to visit the display cases of their loved ones or to learn more about the lives of Muscogee (Creek) Veterans.

The children from the MCN Head Start were among the participants at the celebration. A particular touching moment was when a few of the 3-5-year-old children gazed up at the new statue of Ernest Childers. Their tiny hands explored the smoothness of the stone rendition of a great hero who sacrificed and others like him, made it possible for those children continue to thrive and grow in a happy and safe country. One could not help but be moved at the thought of how different the day could have been for those tiny hands were it not for the men and women who the Nation sought to acknowledge that day.

Veterans were also photographed by MCN Communications photographer Mallory Bible who worked with Veteran affairs to set up a studio portrait session for each Muscogee (Creek) Veteran. The celebration rounded off with a picnic-style lunch of BBQ catered by Masseys.

For more information on MCN VASO, please contact the office at (918) 732-7734.

Free two-day health workshop set for child health care professionals

Media Release
MCN Diabetes Program

OKEMAH — Let's Play, in conjunction with the MCN and Wewoka Indian Health Center are hosting a free two-day workshop.

This conference is free to all local Physical Education Teachers, local health care agencies, and any other group working in the area of increasing physical activity in children.

The conference will be held at the Panther Dome of Okemah Public Schools on Tuesday Dec. 8, from 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., and on Wednesday Dec. 9 from 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

On Tuesday Ray Fredrick, coach of the Bouncing Bulldog Jump Rope team will be speaking. The Bulldogs have been Jump Rope National Champions for six years and performed at the Bejing Olympic games.

On Wednesday Scott Robison M.Ed, the Health Educator at the Wewoka Indian Health Center and former Exercise Program coordinator will be presenting an approach to physical activity with positive experience, movement and physical activity regardless of size and shape.

To register, contact Kim Little, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Program at (918) 689-2540.

Community Calendar

• Pancake Breakfast

OKMULGEE — St. Paul's United Methodist Church will be the location of a fund raiser pancake breakfast hosted by the Young adults of Springfield Methodist Church.

St. Paul's is located at North 3rd St. in Okemah. The fund raiser will be held on Dec. 5, 2009 between 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Children may have their picture taken with Santa. Adult breakfast is $6, children $4, two and under are free. Breakfast includes pancakes, sausage drinks and free hot cocoa.

All proceeds benefit the Springfield United Methodist Church Youth Ministry.

• New Beginnings Baptist selling tamales for holiday season

HENRYETTA — New Beginnings Baptist Church will be selling tamales in order to raise funds for upcoming church activities.

Member Joyce Thompson has been in the process of hand-sewing quilts to cancer patients and missions. Canned foods are also being accepted for holiday food baskets.

For more information, please contact Joyce Thompson at (918) 652-3897.

Birth

Eviana Gail Evans

TAHLEQUAH — Eviana Gail Evans was born on Sept. 1, 2009 at Hastings Indian Hospital.

She weighted 7 pounds and 15 ounces and was 19 inches in length.

She is the daughter of Terryn Proctor and Evan Evans.

Grandparents are Terry and JoAnn Proctor and Mando and Anita Evans.

Great grandparent is Samarian Harrison.

Birthdays

Jazmine Faye King

OKMULGEE — Jazmine Faye King celebrated her first birthday on July 15, 2009 with a theme of "Hello Kitty."

She is the daughter of Kimberly Reagan and Virgil King.

Grandparents are Jerry and Amy Reagan and Virgil King Sr. and Delina King.

Great grandparents are Eli and Lena Starr and Fred and Luella Reagan.

She is of the Deer Clan and of the Arbeka Tribal Town.

Paulo Daniel Rodriguez

CIBOLO, Texas — Paulo Daniel Rodriguez celebrated his fourth birthday on Nov. 4, 2009.

Parents are Daniel and Caitlyn Rodriguez. He has one sibling; Diego Rodriguez.

Grandparents are Robert Combs and Lynn Lutzen and Jesus Rodriguez and Wilma Daal.

Great grandparents are Harold and Joanna Combs.

He is of the Coweta Tribal Town.

Birthdays

Chenoa Barnett

OKMULGEE — Chenoa Barnett celebrated her 5th birthday on Oct. 23 with a "Hannah Montana" party.

Her parents are Stephanie Good Voice and Roger Barnett. She has two siblings; April and Eco Barnett.

Her grandparents are Sally (Jones) and the late Kenneth Good Voice and Rachel (Wilson) and the late Joseph Barnett.

Great grandparents are the late Walter and Mary (Yahola) Jones and the late Elias and Keva (Iyotte) Good Voice and the Late Solomon and Nicey (Tecumseh) Wilson and the late James and Lizzie (Starr) Barnett.

She attends the Okmulgee Child Development Center.

She is of the Raccoon Clan and is from the Nuyaka Tribal Town.

Terryn Proctor

WAGONER — Terryn Proctor celebrated her 20th birthday on Oct. 25, 2009 with a "Halloween" themed party.

Parents are Terry and JoAnn (Harrison)Proctor.

She has three siblings; Kayla, Marissa and Hooty.

Grandparents are the late Addison and Samarian (Sulphur)Harrison and the late Harvey and Geraldine Proctor.

Great grandparents are the late David and the late Silby Harrison and Alex and Fannie Sulphur and the late Columbus and the late Suzie Proctor.

She is of the Beaver Clan and of the New Tulsa Tribal Town.

Diego Robert Rodriguez

CIBOLO, Texas — Diego Robert Rodriguez celebrated his sixth birthday on Oct. 31, 2009 with a "Spy" themed party.

Parents are Daniel and Caitlyn Rodriguez. He has one sibling; Paulo Rodriguez.

Grandparents are Robert Combs and Lynn Lutzen and Jesus Rodriguez and Wilma Daal.

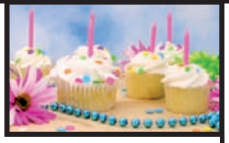
Great grandparents are Harold and Joanna Combs.

He attends Sippel Elementary School.

He is of the Coweta Tribal Town.

Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:



Roll Number:__________________

Phone Number: (___)___________

Name: ____________________________________

Address:____________________________________

Date of Birth: _______________________________

Theme of the party:__________________________

Parents: __________________________________

Siblings: __________________________________

Maternal and Paternal grandparents:

____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:

____

School: ___________________________________

Clan: _____________________________________

Tribal Town:________________________________

Birth:

Roll Number:__________________

Phone Number: (___)___________

Name: ____________________________________

Address:____________________________________

Date of Birth: _______________________________

Name of Hospital: ___________________________

Weight: ______ **pounds** ______ **ounces**______**inches**

Parents: __________________________________

Siblings: __________________________________

Maternal and Paternal grandparents:

____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:

____

Clan: _____________________________________

Tribal Town:________________________________

Announcements:

Roll Number:__________________

Phone Number: (___)___________

Name: ____________________________________

Address:____________________________________

Parents: __________________________________

Siblings: __________________________________

Maternal and Paternal grandparents:

____

Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:

____

Clan: _____________________________________

Tribal Town:________________________________

Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

Contact Starla Bush by phone at (918) 732 - 7636 or by e-mail at SBush@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

7th Annual Warrior's Showcase Shootout

• Close to 80 teams expected with a strong contingency from Mississippi attending

Media Release
4 Love of the Game

HENRYETTA — 4 Love of the Game will be hosting their 7th Annual Warriors Showcase Shootout on Nov. 27-29, 2009 for Native American boys and girls ages five to 14. The three day basketball tournament will once again be held at Henryetta Public Schools..

The Annual Warriors' Showcase Shootout has been held during Thanksgiving Weekend for the past six years. Last year's 6th Annual Warriors' Showcase Shootout was held November 28 - 30, 2008 in Henryetta, Okla. The tournament featured 66 boys and girls teams, 10 more than the previous year. Over 2,500 family, friends and avid fans witnessed the play of future hardwood stars!

Photography courtesy of 4LOTG

Above: Pictured above are participants fighting for a loose ball during tournament action at the 2008 Warriors' Showcase Shootout.

Below: Pictured at left is the all new $9,000 Kubota RTV 500 that will be given away in a raffle at this year's event. At right, 4 Love of the Game board member David Pascale and Preston Public Schools Superintendent Mark Hudson assist in the delivery of turkeys to needy families over the holiday season.

The tournament features nine different divisions: 5&6 (coed), 7&8 (boys/girls), 9&10 (boys/girls), 11-12 (boys/girls) and 13-14 (boys/girls). All teams must be community based and are limited to an eight player team roster. The entry fee for each division is as follows: 5-6 & 7-8 is $100, 9-10 & 11-12 is $120 and 13-14 is $150 in the form of a cashier's check or money order only. The deadline has been pushed back to Nov. 6, 2009 at 5 p.m.

One of the goals of 4LOTG was to one day host a Warriors Showcase Shootout tournament to over 100 teams and be tabbed as the largest national Native American tournament for ages 5-14! This dream is close to coming to fruition. The Mississippi Choctaw community is planning on entering 10-15 teams. Other Native American communities in Kansas and Nebraska have expressed interest as well.

Prior to beginning of the 7th Annual Warriors Showcase Tournament, 4LOTG will be giving away over 90 turkeys to those in need during the Thanksgiving holiday.

"4 Love of the Game is not, and will never be, just about sports," said Victor Bear. "We use sports to reach Native American youth and families. Our families and 4LOTG has been blessed over the years and we want to give back to the Native American communities."

If you know or a Native American family that may be in need during Thanksgiving please visit the office of 4LOTG at 112 N. 7th Street in Henryetta and leave a contact name and number of the family. The turkeys will be given out at the office at a date and time to be announced later.

Also, in conjunction with this tournament and throughout the months of November through March, 4LOTG will be coordinating a fund-raising raffle to generate funds to construct a multi-purpose facility in Henryetta. The raffles tickets are $10 per ticket or three for $20.

The raffle is for a $9,000 Kubota RTV 500. Registration forms may be downloaded at www.4loveofthegame.org. All required documentation for official entry can be mailed in or dropped off at the 4LOTG offices at 112 N. 7th Street in Henryetta.

For more information, contact Lucas Taylor at (918) 650-3920, Victor Bear at (918) 261-2315 or David Pascale at (918) 650-3704.

Community Calendar

• Challenge Bowl training set for Feb. 4, 2010

OKMULGEE — The Challenge bowl training will be held Feb. 4, 2010.

The high school competition will be held on Feb. 11, 2010, middle school competition on Feb. 18, 2010, and the elementary competition Feb. 25, 2010.

All training and competitions will be held at Burbank Schools, which is located at 209 S. Lakewood Dr., in Tulsa, Okla.

The registration deadline is Jan. 8, 2010. For more information contact Joe Martel, by e-mail at jmartel@muscogeenation-nsn.gov, by phone at (918) 732-7841 or fax at (918) 732-7844.

• Dewar Indian Community hosts Creek language classes

DEWAR — Dewar Indian Community is currently hosting Creek language classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7-9 p.m., at the Dewar Indian Community Center located at 212 N. Luella in Dewar, Okla.

For more information please call (918) 652-3310 or the MCN Language Program at (918) 732-7724.

• Fife Collection to be featured in BAHSM

BROKEN ARROW — A special exhibit, "The Fife Collection: A New Generation," that includes works of twenty-one artists from a single family will be on exhibit at the Broken Arrow Historical Society Museum beginning Saturday, November 21. A "Meet the Artists" reception will be held on Sunday, November 29 from 1 to 5 pm at the museum, 400 S Main in Broken Arrow.

This exhibit will run Nov. 21, 2009 through Jan. 9, 2010 at the Broken Arrow Historical Society Museum. Hours are Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 2p.m. Special opening will be held Sunday, Nov 29, from 1 p.m. - 5 p.m., and will feature a meet and greet with the artists.

For more information contact Betty Gerber, Executive Director of the Broken Arrow Historical Society, 400 S. Main, Broken Arrow (918) 258-2616

Open House

Saturday, December 5, 2009

5 -7 p.m.

Join us for Mvskoke Christmas Songs & Mvskoke Hymns

Entertainment by

Miss Okmulgee County 2009-2010

&

Miss Okmulgee County Outstanding Team

Creek Council House Museum

106 W. 6th St - Okmulgee, OK 74447

(918)756-2324

Contact Rebecca Landsberry by phone at (918) 732 - 7743 or by e-mail at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

Holdenville Casino

BUSINESS/GAMING - A5

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Health Spotlight

HEALTH - A6

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

DECEMBER 2009
Volume 39, Issue 12
SEMI-MONTHLY

www.themuscogeecreeknation.com

"We believe in education"

• College of the Muscogee Nation breaks ground on new campus

MNN/*Ruth Bible*

Pictured above are tribal officials present at the College of the Muscogee Nation's historic ground-breaking ceremony on Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2009 near OUSIT's Okmulgee campus.

SOWING SEED

OKMULGEE — At 1:30 p.m., Nov. 10, 2009 a host of golden shovels plunged into the soil, and dreams became reality.

Tribal citizens, employees and administration were among those gathered to break ground on the new campus for the College of the Muscogee Nation. The site will be on a 15-acre plot adjacent to Highway Loop 56, just southeast of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation capitol complex. The ground breaking was just the beginning installment of a four-phase project.

The finished product will be a 22,000 square ft., facility complete with eight classrooms, 16 offices and a state-of-the-art media center. According to President Robert Bible, the hope is that they will begin moving in to the new building in November 2010. For the tribe, which has placed an emphasis on the future education of its people, it was truly a historic day.

SEE EDUCATION - A8

MNN/*Jason Salsman*

2009 AARP Awards recognize 50 Native Americans

• Six Muscogee (Creek) citizens honored for contributions

MNN/Gerald Wofford

Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens (pictured left to right) Allan Colbert, Phillip Coon, Dr. Lahoma Schultz, Turner Bear, Jr., George Tiger and Gene Bible (not pictured) were honored at the 2009 AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder Honors Ceremony in Oklahoma City.

Gerald Wofford
Communications Manager

OKLAHOMA CITY — Several Muscogee (Creek) citizens were honored Nov. 17, 2009 at the Will Rogers Theatre in Oklahoma City.

The 2009 American Association of Retired People (AARP) held their Oklahoma Indian Elder Honors program that evening. Where 50 Native Americans representing different tribes from around the state were recognized and honored for their services to their tribe, and to Native American society in general.

Those honored from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation included: Turner Bear, Jr., Allan Colbert, Dr. Lahoma Schultz, Gene Bible, George Tiger and Phillip Coon.

"It is a special night to recognize and pay tribute to these Indian elders who have given so much of themselves to their tribes and to our states," said Marjorie Lyons who serves as the Volunteer State President of the AARP in Oklahoma, "It is with great pleasure tonight that we salute the dignities of these Indian Honor Elders.

The keynote address was given by Lee Hammond who serves as the National AARP President in Salisbury, Md. "Today's honorees reflect two of AARP's major challenges for keeping pace in the 21st century," said Hammond, "I'm talking about diversity and volunteerism."

All recipients were honored with a gold-colored medallion as they were introduced by Mistress of Ceremonies, Cherokee Ballard, as their photos were shown on a big screen to an attentive crowd.

Although all honorees were applauded generously, it was Phillip Coon who received a standing ovation as he was announced as the only Native American alive who is a survivor of the Battan Death March, a 60-mile trek that he and other World War II POW's had to endure in the Pacific.

Special Primary Election set for Saturday, Dec. 26, 2009

Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The filing period for the Special Election to fill Tulsa District Seat A was held Monday, Nov. 30 -Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2009 in order to fill the vacant seat left by the late Rep. Ronald Cleghorn in November.

The following have filed for candidacy: Forbes Perkins, Dianne Billie, Lucy Spaulding, Carol McHenry-Williams, E. June Mustari, Jerry Wilson and Carolyn Burgess-Billy.

The Special Primary Election shall be held Saturday, Dec. 26, 2009 with the Special General Election to follow on Saturday, Jan. 16, 2010, if necessary.

The successful candidate shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term of the vacant office. All voters of the Tulsa District may contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board to update their addresses.

SEE PROFILES - A3

MCN Healthy Heart Program now recruiting participants

by Kara Lee and Michelle Crawley
MCN Health Systems

OKMULGEE — Recently, 24 Healthy Heart participants have brought seven out of the seven risk factors for heart disease into healthy ranges. These participants have also maintained these healthier ranges for a long period of time – some for more than two years.

Most of the remaining 65 participants have healthy ranges in five or six of the risk factors. "I feel better," "I don't feel worried about my health like I used to" and "I like the Healthy Heart Team because they make me accountable for my actions" are just a few of the comments heard from participants.

If you have diabetes and have been thinking about being serious about improving your health and lowering your risk for heart disease, here is an opportunity to get started.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Healthy Heart Project is excited to announce they will be recruiting in December and January.

SEE HEART - A6

EXECUTIVE A2

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis attends Tribal Nations Conference

COMMUNITY A3

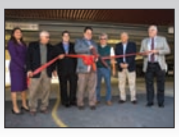
Special Election: Candidate Profiles for Tulsa District: Seat A

LEGAL NOTICES A4

Notice of Hearing: Clifford Brown

BUSINESS/GAMING A5

River Spirit expands



PROGRAMS/NOTICES A7

Montesoma Baptist honors veterans

EDUCATION A8

NASA awarded OSUIT's Outstanding Student Club Award for 2009

Communications Department - P.O. Box 580 - Okmulgee, OK 74447

EXECUTIVE

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STAFF
Manager - Gerald Wofford
Editor - Rebecca Landsberry
Senior Writer - Angel Ellis
Cultural Reporter - Ruth Bible
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Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Letters to the Editor

Phones for the elderly... maybe

OKMULGEE — For those readers who have been following this no phones for the elderly saga, I am happy to report, but it's a cautious report, that we at the Elderly Housing may be getting our long awaited telephones in December.

The reason for the cautiousness is that I have been disappointed in the past when told we would be getting our phones. However, this time it's different. Councilman Keeper Johnson, the advocate for the elderly, has jumped into the fray. He told the people who are responsible for the telephones that he wanted a deadline on when we would be getting our phones. He was told we would have them in December.

If that is true, how wonderful that would be for us here to have these long awaited telephones for Christmas. We would be able to call our loved ones that live far away and they could call us.

I would like to say for Christmas, "call me on my new telephone," but I can't for certain, so let's hope you can call me for Christmas in 2010.

Bob Hicks
MCN Elderly Housing resident

Snake Creek Baptist Church thanks the Nation

OKMULGEE — We thank the Lord for the blessing of running water in our fellowship hall and how it has improved our church grounds. We also want to thank you and your office for all the assistance provided throughout this process and for putting us into contact with Jerry Kelley. He kept informed on the step-by-step level, and it was much appreciated. We pray each week for the continued success and determination of our Creek tribe and its employees. While this is a simple note, we appreciate your hard work that has given our Church such a tremendous blessing.

Mvto,
Pastor Andrew Johnson
Snake Creek Baptist Church No. 1

District Court filings for October 2009

The District Court filings from Oct. 1, 2009 thru Oct. 31, 2009 are as follows:

Traffic:

MCN v. Sammye Henson	Ct. 1: DUS
MCN v. Sherry Waters	Ct. 1: No Tag
MCN v. Joshua Hickey	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning, & Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Joshua Hickey	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Derek Taylor	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning & Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Trixie Myers	Ct. 1: No Driver's License
MCN v. Anthony Medley	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Michael Tucker	Ct.1:DUS
MCN v. Carlton Kennedy	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Candy McCourt	Ct.1:DUS
MCN v. Timmy Houser	Ct.1:DUS
MCN v. Jasmine Ibarra	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Jasmine Ibarra	Ct. 1: No Driver's License
MCN v. Martha Ogle	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Brent Wadkins	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Brent Wadkins	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Heather Biggs	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning & Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Jeff Ashby	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Jackeline Gomez	Ct.1:DUS
MCN v. Bobbie Branchcomb	Ct. 1: Starting, Turning & Stopping without Regard to Safety
MCN v. Christopher Cafrey	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Lewis Hampton	Ct.1:DUS
MCN v. Jerry Advise	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Georganna DeShazer	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Robert Morgan	Ct.1:DUS
MCN v. Melina Bernerdina	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Melina Bernerdina	Ct. 1: No Insurance
MCN v. Frances Moore	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Tamara Frailey	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Tamara Frailey	Ct. 1: No Driver's License
MCN v. Tamara Frailey	Ct. 1: No Insurance

District Court filings for November 2009

The District Court filings from Nov. 1, 2009 thru Nov. 30, 2009 are as follows:

Civil:

Tulsa Adjustment Bureau v. Delanie McCaslin	Foreign Judgment
Muskogee Federal Credit Union v. Bradley Baldillez	Small Claims
Bryce Roberts v. Andrea Phillips	Petition
Saber Acceptance v. Shannon Broncho	Foreign Judgment
James Wright v. Tawanda Tabers	Petition
Emanuel Morgan v. Anjanette Coker	Petition
Meredith Goodvoice v. Jerry Harris	Petition
Jamie Haney v. Cameron Powell	Petition
Marcus Canard v. Jessica Hodges	Petition
Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. One Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars and no/100 ($1,425.00) Blackjack Chips	Forfeiture
Cornerstone Acceptance Program v. Carol Humble	Foreign Judgment
Drew Stephens v. Lindsley Harry	Petition
Cash Security Inc., v. Kevin Harwood	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Homer Hill	Small Claims
Jay Johnson v. Traycie Anderson	Petition
Lori Long v. Ricardo Rivera	Petition

Divorce:

Marcus Duvall v. Jennifer Duvall	Divorce
Mariah Perez v. Santiago Perez	Divorce
Sarah Sebring v. Derrick Sebring	Divorce
Darla McCoy v. James McCoy	Divorce
Bennie Drywater v. John Drywater	Divorce
Suzy Sockey v. Jeffrey Sockey	Divorce
Bobby Leftwich v. Virginia Haas	Divorce
Lana Belcher v. Phillip Belcher	Divorce
Larry Rowe v. Maria Rowe	Divorce
Ashley Tyner v. Tyson Tyner	Divorce
Sejaryee Bear v. Hugo Vargas	Divorce

Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex rel., Alyson Banks v. Eric Glenn	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Monica McGriff v. Maurice Richmond	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Megan McClain v. Michael Woodworth	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Heather Fish v. William Fish	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Devon Lowe v. Glynn Cornelius	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Kristina Carroll v. David Badgwell	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Kyshawnda Brown v. Jeffrey Jordan	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Tonie Grayson v. Billy Corn	Child Support

Ex-Parte:

Brandee Beaver v. Dustin Harjo	Ex-Parte
Melanie Artussee v. Latoya Hammon	Ex-Parte
Beverly Watashe, Patricia Dunn & Debbie Rabbit v. Charles Watashe, Kevin Hagee & Rejina Hampton	Ex-Parte
Melanie Artussee v. Latoya Hammon	Ex-Parte
Johnnie Marks v. Henry Barrett	Ex-Parte
Diana Lucero v. Misty Hulbutta	Ex-Parte
June McGuire v. Jordan McGuire	Ex-Parte
Alene Warhop v. Willie Warhop	Ex-Parte
Talisha Walton v. Gary McVay	Ex-Parte

Criminal Misdemeanor

MCN v. Roy Woodman	Ct. 1: Public Intoxication Ct. 2: Resisting Arrest
MCN v. Phillip Talamasy	Ct. 1: Violation of Protection Order

Traffic:

MCN v. Jarrod Haight	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Oscar Parker	Ct. 1: Expired Tag
MCN v. Nicholas Blazek	Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Michael Cantu	Ct. 1: DUS

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis attends Tribal Nations Conference

thestate.com/*Courtesy*

President Barack Obama met with officials from across the U.S., last month for the Tribal Leaders Summit held Nov. 5, 2009 at the White House in Washington, D.C.

Ruth Bible
MNN Cultural Reporter

WASHINGTON, D.C., — President Barack Obama invited all Native American leaders to the White House Tribal Leaders Conference Nov. 5, 2009 in Washington, D.C.

Health care is a primary concern among the Native American people, a group suffering from poorer medical care and higher crime rates than the general public; a group often overlooked.

The President states that he wants to learn how his administration can meet the needs of the Native American people in order to improve the standard of living for this population.

The White House said that each of the 564 federally recognized tribes in the U.S. was invited to send one representative to the White House for the conference. Principal Chief A.D. Ellis represented the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and was one of the many leaders that attended this historical meeting.

And that's why representatives of multiple agencies are here today - because if we're going to address the needs of Native Americans in a comprehensive way, then we've got to mount a comprehensive response. A major step toward living up to that responsibility is the presidential memorandum that was issued this day.

"In the final years of his administration, President Clinton issued an executive order establishing regular and meaningful consultation and collaboration between your nations and the federal government. But over the past nine years, only a few agencies have made an effort to implement that executive order - and it's time for that to change," Obama stated.

Obama promised a voice on his senior staff in the White House so that the tribes have a seat at the table when important decisions are being made about Native American lives, nations, and our people.

In his cabinet he has several Native Americans, one of many appointed is Kimberly Teehee of the Cherokee Nation as Obama's Native American policy advisor and Jodi Gillette of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. Secretary Ken Salazar and Obama selected Larry Echo Hawk of the Pawnee Nation to serve as Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Interior.

"The memorandum signed directs every Cabinet agency to give the president a detailed plan within 90 days of now - with the full implementation of that executive order and how we're going to improve tribal consultation. After all, there are challenges we can only solve by working together, and we face a serious set of issues right now," he stated.

In closing, he made clear that he is an ally. "So there's a lot of work to be done today. But before we get at it, I want to close with this. I know you've heard this song from Washington before. I know you've often heard grand promises that sound good but rarely materialize. And each time, you're told this time will be different. But over the last few years, I've had a chance to speak with Native American leaders across the country about the challenges you face, and those conversations have been deeply important to me," he stated.

Obama also discussed how tribes face the same kinds of challenges all of America faces, and how he plans to address those challenges.

"I understand what it means to be on the outside looking in. I know what it means to feel ignored and forgotten, and what it means to struggle. So you will not be forgotten as long as I'm in this White House. Together, working together, we're going to make sure that the First Americans, along with all Americans, get the opportunities they deserve."

MyTribeTV is a Native American owned business, based in Seattle WA, that specializes in streaming live and on-demand content on the Internet.

MyTribeTV in partnership with the Department of the Interior – Office of Indian Energy & Economic Development, has streamed several events across the country. Making information easily available to Native Americans everywhere.

Pete Souza/*Courtesy of the White House*

President Barack signed an official memorandum stating his promise to Indian Country that his Administration will serve as an ally for the length of his term.

PROFILES

Dianna Lynn Billie

Seat: A
Name: Dianna Lynn Billie
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town: Concharty
Church: Concharty United Methodist Church
Family: Two children and seven grandchildren.

Experience: Resident of the Glenpool Community for the past seven years, currently serve on the board of the Glenpool Creek Indian Community as the Secretary. I am also on the finance committee and trustee committee for Concharty United Methodist Church. I have about 19 years of experience in different aspects of the gaming industry both nationally and internationally.

"I believe strongly in educating Creek citizens of all ages. I would like to see incentive programs implemented to encourage students to complete High School and increased incentives for graduates of higher learning. I believe in taking care of our elder citizens with respect and dignity. I believe that education, accountability on all levels of tribal government and a true spirit of service to the people is the key to moving the Muscogee Nation forward," Billie stated.

If elected, it would be an honor and privilege to serve the citizens of the Tulsa District.

Carolyn Burgess-Billy

Seat: A
Name: Carolyn Burgess-Billy
Clan: Wotko (Raccoon)
Church: Celebration Church
Family: Parents were Woodrow Burgess and Rhoda Hicks Burgess; Grandparents were James and Elsie West Burgess and Robert and Lena Heneha Hicks; Husband, David Leslie Billy.

Education: Associates in Business Management at St. Gregory's University in Tulsa, Okla. Now working on Bachelor's in Administrative Leadership at the University of Oklahoma in Tulsa, Okla.

Experience: My experience extends to listening and helping people resolve issues on a daily basis. I have worked for State Farm Insurance for five years in the Regional Office as an Underwriting Service Assistant and during the past year have played a key role in bringing awareness, education and resources to the employees about the Native American culture and traditions.

"In my heart, I see the need for change. The kind of change that will put our Creek citizens on the same level as other tribes," billy stated.

E. June Mustari

Seat: A
Name: Elanor June Mustari
Clan: Eco
Tribal Town: Arbeka
Church: Weogufkee Indian Baptist Church
Family: Spouse Eugene J. Mustari, Parents are Bailey and Mattie (Simpson) Bullett, Grandparents are Shelby and Lucy (Fields) Simpson and Solomon and Millie (West) Bullett.

Education: Private schools and two years at boarding school, graduate of Haskell Indian Nations University and attended business school for Accounting and Computer Programming

Experience: Fluent in Mvskoke language, active military (U. S. Air Force) – Honorable Discharge, Tulsa County Voter Registrar and Docent (Tour Guide) Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa, Tulsa's Stormwater Drainage Advisory Board, League of Women Voters of Tulsa and Oklahoma; Treasurer at both levels

"By observation, I can see our government is having problems but we also have many good things happening. I care very deeply for our tribe. I do know a lot about the laws of our Nation and I will learn much more, fairly swiftly. Among other issues, I would like to see accountability and responsibility for whatever position one holds. Fiscal responsibility is at the top of my list. I want to see that tribal services are improved, including attitude, along with what we can provide. Nothing is done alone, and I am very willing and able to work with anyone, including other branches of our government, to achieve progress. I will not bill my message as 'for the good of the Nation' although that is what I will truly aim for. I cannot make promises I may not be able to deliver but I will try my very best for our citizens."

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Forbes Perkins

Seat: A
Name: Forbes Perkins
Clan: Sweet Potato
Tribal Town: New Tulsa
Church: Indian Fellowship Baptist Church
Family: Born in Bellflower, Calif., to Paula (Pinkie) and Lewis Perkins. My maternal grandmother was Nellie McCosar from Holdenville, Okla.

Education: Graduated from Haskell Indian Nations University in May 1995 an with AA degree in Liberal Arts. "I feel that a person can never have too much education." As of 2007, Perkins was a student at the College of the Muscogee Nation, majoring in Native American studies and Tulsa Community College, majoring in computers.

Experience: Board of Directors for the Tulsa Creek Indian Community serving as the Sgt.-at-Arms, Vice-Chairman and Chair. Engineer with Horizon Engineering, which is a Native owned civil engineering firm that specializes in tribal needs including designing or improving tribal roads, casinos, hospitals and reservation schools. I would like to eventually own my own engineering firm and do work for tribes.

"I want to help our people as much as possible. With my education background and my time and experience I would get serving on the National Council, I feel I can be a positive influence in the Native community," Perkins stated.

Lucy Marshall-Spaulding

Seat: A
Name: Lucy Marshall-Spaulding
Clan: Sweet Potato
Tribal Town: Koweta
Church: Wekiwa Indian Baptist Church
Family: Husband Jon, three sons, Shawn Marshall, Jeremy Coon, Cory Spaulding and one daughter Samaria
Spaulding. Six grandchildren. Daughter oflate Captain and late Samaria Marshall. Maternal grandparents
are Joe Buck Grayson and Lucy Lovett; Paternal grandparents are Rufus Marshall and Lizzie Gooden.

Education: Received an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Business from Haskell Jr. College

Experience: I am presently serving as Treasurer for the Tulsa Creek Indian Community Board of Directors since February 2008. I am employed with the Corps of Engineers for 36 years and I have worked for three months in Vicksburg, Miss., and Biloxi, Miss., on Hurricane Katrina. "I believe that I can represent the Muscogee people with pride and integrity. If elected Council Person, I would serve full-time, not part-time, to expand on existing services i.e., Higher Education, Senior Citizens, Veterans; and to provide an economic development to the Nation that would increase jobs for tribal members; increase our land base, which means putting land into trust for future generations. I would work diligently with the tribe and with the other Council members and by working together we can accomplish good things for the Nation," Spaulding stated.

Carol McHenry-Williams

Seat: A
Name: Carol McHenry-Williams
Clan: Beaver
Tribal Town: Turtle
Church: Lexington Road Family Worship Center
Family: Mother Gladys Bland McHenry and Father Lewis Tuskonah McHenry, Maternal grandparents Jeanetta Haikey Bland and Louis D., great grandfather Ben B. Haikey, paternal grandparents Jess J. McHenry and Louise Smith of Broken Arrow. Married to Ron Williams for 47 years with four children Rhanna Simmons of Tulsa Okla., Karrie Phillips of Sapulpa Okla., Candy Lillig of Broken Arrow Okla., and Shawn Williams of Grand Rapids, Mich.,. We are blessed with 16 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren who richly bless our lives.

Education: Associate Degree in Computer Programming from Tulsa Junior College while working full time with four children involved in sports, cheer leading, marching band and FFA.

Experience: I retired in 1997 after working 20 years for The Williams Companies a Fortune 500 Company and have 10 years experience as a Computer Software System Analyst. I currently work for AT&T as a customer service representative. I have been a member of Tulsa Creek Indian Community since 1991 and currently serve on the Tulsa Indian Affairs Commission and the Bylaws Committee.

Over the years my family has benefited from the many programs offered by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, now I would like to give something back to my people. I have developed excellent research and analytical skills with a strong math background. Some of my concerns are in the areas of more accessible health services, senior housing in the Tulsa District, and higher funding for education assistance.

"We need more synergy of resources, which can reduce the redundancy of information across departments and service agencies, and serve our tribal members more efficiently. I would like to serve you on the National Council by making wise and informed decisions. My priority will be to represent the Tulsa district tribal citizens but I want to be accountable and fair to all Muscogee (Creek) citizens, not only those who live within the Tribal boundaries but also those who reside outside the Tribal boundaries. Please allow me to represent you by voting for me in the election Saturday December 26, 2009," Williams said.

Jerry Wilson

Seat: A
Name: Jerry Wilson
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town: Tulsa Little River
Church: Tulsa Hills Baptist Church
Family: Son of the late Alfred and Ruth Wilson, widower, one son, Coy Wilson and grandson, Trez Wilson.

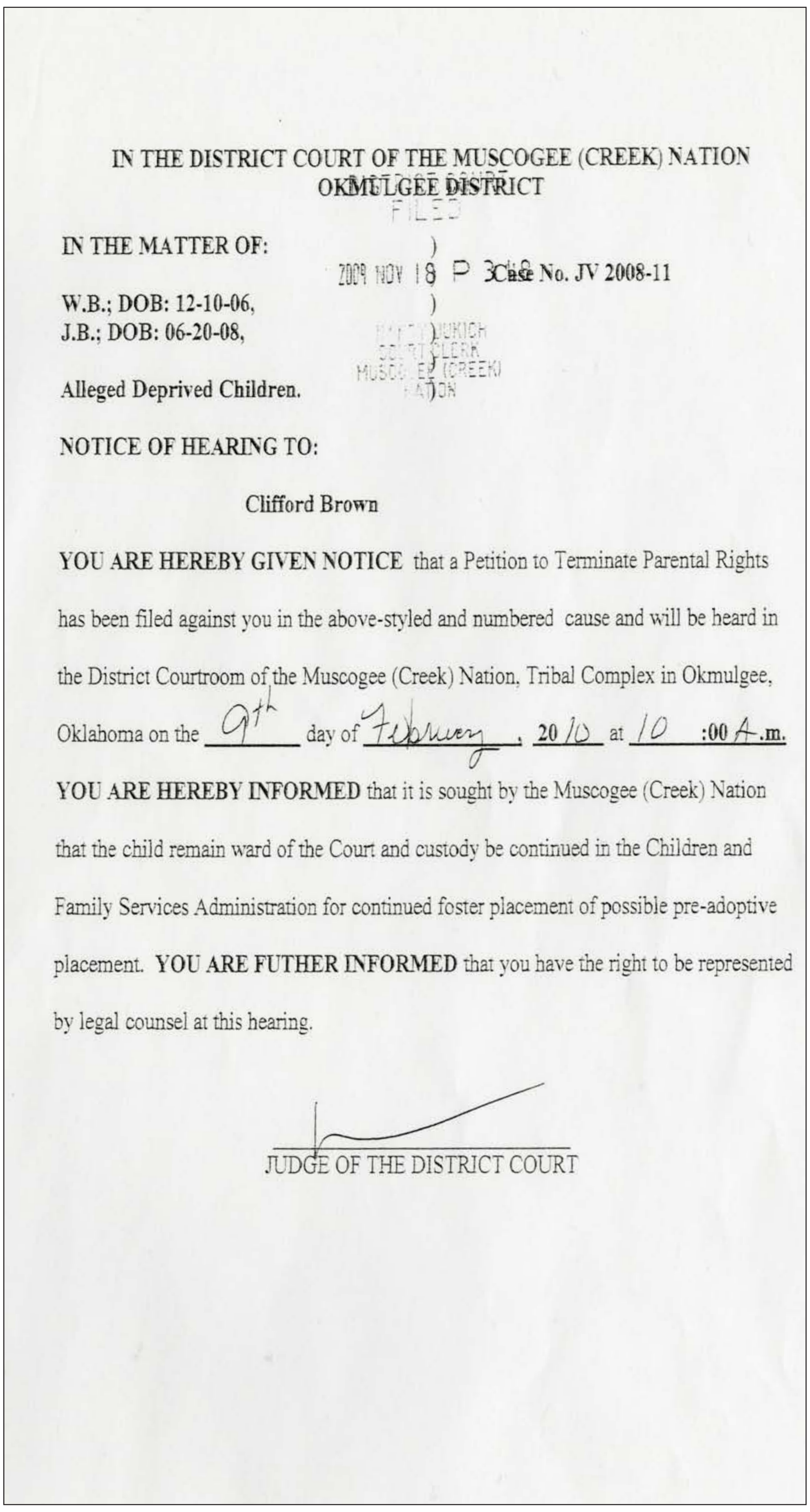
Education: B.S. Degree in Business and Master's Degree in Ed. Admin.

Experience: Wilson worked for the tribe in the early 70s, was the first editor of the *Muscogee Nation News*, worked in all three of the major divisions, served five terms on the National Council and served as the Executive Director. Tribal Experience includes Enterprise Board of Directors Chairman and Treasurer Tulsa Creek Indian Community, four years on Gaming Operations Authority Board, 1-1/2 years as Chairman, three years as Chairman of TCIC Business Board, 2008 Constitution Convention Commissioner

Wilson has owned and operated several small businesses, and received an award from the Small Business Administration as the Minority Entrepreneur of the Year. In addition, he worked for OSU for 23 years and retired last summer; and since that time has started a new business training allied health professionals in the field of pedorthics.

"I decided to run for office to use my experience for the benefit of tribal government. If elected, I would like to focus on improved health care, support for the tribal college, and new strategies for economic development," says Wilson.

JUDICIAL



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 NOV 18 P 3:48
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

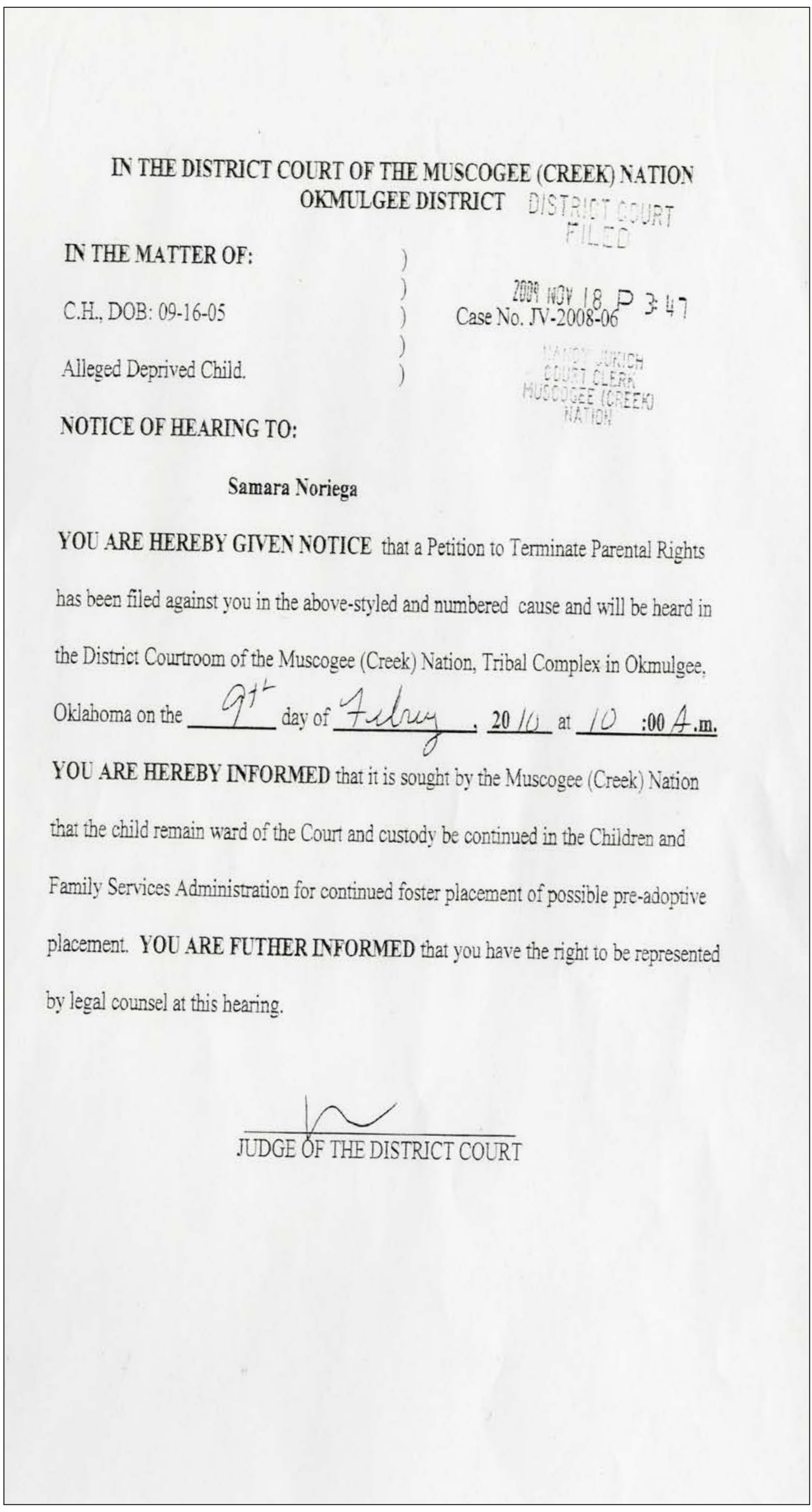
IN THE MATTER OF:)
) Case No. JV 2008-11
W.B.; DOB: 12-10-06,)
J.B.; DOB: 06-20-08,)
)
Alleged Deprived Children.)

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Clifford Brown

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 9th day of February, 2010 at 10 :00 A.m. **YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED** that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the child remain ward of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 NOV 18 P 3:47
NANCY JUKICH
COURT CLERK
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
C.H., DOB: 09-16-05) Case No. JV-2008-06
)
Alleged Deprived Child.)

NOTICE OF HEARING TO:

Samara Noriega

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 9th day of Febry, 2010 at 10 :00 A.m. **YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED** that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the child remain ward of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement of possible pre-adoptive placement. **YOU ARE FUTHER INFORMED** that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

2010 New Years Eve

casino
$10 match play 4:00 pm - midnight
2010 camaro slot tournament
DJ w/dance contest and prizes
$100 Hot seat drawings
free party favors

Blackjack
Blackjack Tournament
$60 Buy-in with $15,000
in cash and prizes

Poker
$150 megabounty tournament
12:30 pm 2 free beers w/entry

win a 2010 chevrolet camaro

Santa's Specials

DECEMBER 19TH

CASINO $20 SLOT TOURNAMENT

1ST PLACE	-	$1,000	+ $500 FREE PLAY+GIFT
2ND PLACE	-	$600	+ $400 FREE PLAY+GIFT
3RD PLACE	-	$400	+ $350 FREE PLAY+GIFT
4TH PLACE	-	$300	+ $200 FREE PLAY+GIFT
5TH PLACE	-	$200	+ $150 FREE PLAY+GIFT

SANTA'S BINGO SPECIAL
$15 PAYS $750. MINI GAMES PAY DOUBLE! CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR EVERY PLAYER. VIPICKEM PAYS $500. SUPER JACKPOT PAYS $500. BONANZA PAYS $500.

BLACKJACK SPECIAL
PLAYERS WILL RECEIVE A DRAWING TICKET IF THEY HAVE A SUITED BLACKJACK, STRAIGHT OR BETTER ON THREE CARD POKER, OR A FLUSH OR BETTER ON ULTIMATE TEXAS HOLD'EM. TWO CHRISTMAS GIFT DRAWINGS AT 1:00 PM, 2:00 PM, 3:00 PM, 4:00 PM, AND 5:00 PM.

$10 FREEPLAY
FOR DIAMOND CLUB MEMBERS

DECEMBER 12TH
HOLIDAY STIMULUS

NOON - 5:00 PM
$10 Free Play for every Diamond Club member.
$100 Hot Seat Drawings

Holiday Stimulus Bingo (December 12th)
$10 pays $500. Mini Games pay DOUBLE! Each Bingo VIP member will receive $10 in bingo player points with the purchase of an Early Bird or Regular Session pack. Limit one (1) per person.

Blackjack Special
Players will receive a drawing ticket if they have a suited blackjack, straight or better on Three Card Poker, or a flush or better on Ultimate Texas Hold'em. Two $250 drawings at 1:00 PM, 2:00 PM, 3:00 PM, 4:00 PM, and 5:00 PM.

CREEK NATION Casino MUSCOGEE

www.creeknationcasino.net
3420 W. Peak Boulevard Muskogee, OK 74401 918.683.1825

BUSINESS/GAMING

River Spirit expands

• New Parking garage offers 1,300 additional spaces

MNN/*Tiffany Ellis*

Pictured above are casino and tribal officials gathered at the new multi-million dollar parking facility for the ribbon-cutting ceremony held Monday, Nov. 9, 2009 at River Spirit Casino in Tulsa.

TULSA – River Spirit Casino has opened a new six-story, 1,300 space parking garage just in time for the holidays. This new multi-million dollar parking facility is located between the new River Spirit Casino and the old Creek Nation Casino facility.

There are several approaches to the new parking facility including the bridge that connects the old and new properties for those who want to enter the parking facility from the Casino Drive entrance.

"Our entire Team is excited to have this new parking facility available. It will greatly increase our current parking capacity and alleviate any parking problem for our guests," stated Tiffany Ellis, Public Relations Manager at River Spirit Casino. "We want all of our guests to have the best entertainment experience possible and it begins with parking their car."

To celebrate the opening of the new parking garage, one day each month two River Spirit Casino Surprise Shuttles will be giving away $5 MATCH PLAY* to each guest riding the shuttle from the new parking garage to the casino from 2 p.m. - 10 p.m., on certain surprise dates. Look for the shuttle with a VGT character, and you'll be a winner before you even enter the casino.

River Spirit/*Tiffany Ellis*

Employees secure Thanksgiving for local families in need

Media Release
Creek Nation Casino Holdenville

MUSCOGEE NATION I.T.

Sylvanna Caldwell/Courtesy

Pictured above are members of security staff at the Holdenville Creek Nation Casino who helped secure donations to ensure five local families received holiday gift baskets to help with their Thanksgiving meals.

HOLDENVILLE — It's all about giving back to the community for the security officers at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Casino in Holdenville, according to Sgt. Sylvanna Caldwell, Lt. Bryan Elliott and the officers who presented five Thanksgiving baskets during the holidays. The Thanksgiving baskets have become an annual tradition for the Casino Security staff members who look forward to the holiday food drive each year.

"The members of the Security staff contribute out of their own pockets to help raise the money for the food drive," said Caldwell. "It is a very rewarding feeling to know that we can help a family in need."

Caldwell chaired the event this year and with the help of the rest of the security staff, they were able to raise enough money to provide food baskets for five families in the community. Once the money was gathered, Caldwell and Lt. Elliott purchased the food items and began to put together the Thanksgiving baskets.

"We realize that there are people in the community who will have a tough time during the holidays this year and we just want to do what we can to help," said Elliott who is the head of security at the Holdenville Creek Nation Casino. "The local community is a very big part of our business and we see this as a chance to give something back," Caldwell said.

Caldwell noted that through the efforts of the staff members the food drive was successful and she pointed out that the security officers gave generously when donations were needed.

"This is what the holidays are all about," said Chris Scott, of the Casino Security Staff. "It can be pretty tough during the holidays when money is short. I've been in that situation, as have some of the other security officers here. That is why this is so important to all of us. We all want to help any way we can."

According to Elliot, there was plenty of money to provide a bountiful Thanksgiving meal for each of the five families, and all of the left-over funds will be applied to the staff's annual Christmas "Adopt a Family" holiday fund-raiser.

"Not only did the officers donate from their own pockets, but we received a very generous donation from one of the local grocery stores," said Elliot. "Gerald Coym, Manager at the Holdenville Nichols Dollar Saver, donated three turkeys for the food drive and one of the store's employees also purchased a turkey and donated for the food baskets."

According to the Lieutenant, one of the casino employees also donated a turkey which gave the security staff five turkeys for the food drive. Both the Nichols employee and the Security staff member requested their names not be released.

On Wednesday, Caldwell and members of the staff began to fill the boxes with food and goodies that would provide a bountiful Thanksgiving meal for the five families which were selected from a list of local families in need.

"We asked the Holdenville Indian Community Center to provide the names of five families who could use some help during the holidays and then we delivered the baskets ourselves to ensure that they would be given to local families," Caldwell said.

The food boxes were decorated in festive holiday décor and delivered to the homes just in time for the Thanksgiving holiday. Once the Thanksgiving food drive was completed, the officers began planning their project that will help provide Christmas gifts for a local family in need.

> *"It can be pretty tough during the holidays when money is short/ I've been in that situation, as have some of the other security officers here. That's why it's so important to all of us. We want to help any way we can."*
> - Chris Scott, Holdenville Creek Nation Casino Security Officer

12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 1ST THROUGH 23RD

THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS IN CASH & PRIZES

DRAWINGS FROM 7PM-10PM STARTING DECEMBER 12TH. EARN ENTRIES BY PLAYING VGT MACHINES

Promotion includes 11 nights of cash awards. Prizes for the final night include a Blu Ray DVD Player, Digital Camera, Apple I-Pod Touch, Nintendo Wii, Playstation 3, XBox 360 Elite, 55" Flat Screen TV, $2500 & $,5000. Actual Items Not Shown. Must be a One Fire Club Member to participate & you must be present to win.

CREEK NATION Casino OKMULGEE

HWY 75 @ EUFAULA ST. • (918)756-8400 • www.cncokmulgee.com

THIS FACILITY IS REGULATED BY THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OFFICE OF PUBLIC GAMING

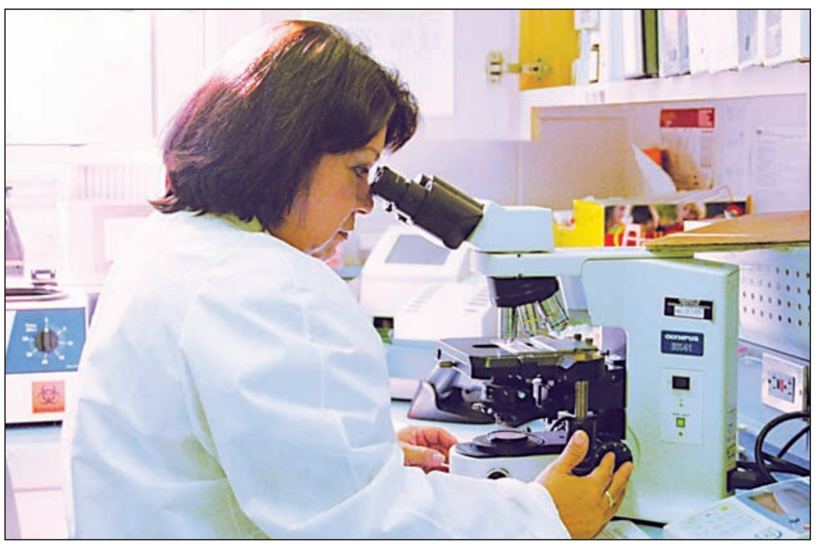
Health Spotlight: Okemah Community Hospital Laboratory

Sandra Peters
MCN Health Systems

OKEMAH — Slipping your hands into latex-gloves and placing a glass slide under a microscope one might find that the specimen contains streptococcus cells, an infection that causes strep throat and in many cases, these types of infections may lead to a more serious disease such as pneumonia.

Clinical laboratory technologists at the Okemah Community Hospital (OCH) examine body fluids and tissues for signs of disease. They manage the labs for our hospital and doctors. Because of the nature of their work and the hazards it may entail, particular attention to detail and the ability to work under pressure are extremely important.

The laboratory technicians at OCH spend long hours in the lab, performing repetitive tests in order to determine which cells may cause transmittable disease. Medical conditions such as a severe infections, organ destruction, a malignancy or vascular or heart abnormalities are examples of a few of the problems a lab tech may complete testing on during a normal working day.



Lab techs must have both the technical and the communication skills to address these issues in the Lab. Their test results must be completely accurate before a doctor can prescribe medical care. Technicians can prepare samples and use automated machinery to conduct some tests, and they may also do tests manually.

They may also specialize in a specific field or perform a variety of tests. If technicians are on-call overnight or on weekends they may also be required to rotate shifts in the smaller labs such as the Okemah Community Hospital. The hospital is open 24 hours a day and on weekends so that they can serve the people. The lab multitasking medical equipment also tests for a myriad of severe toxic reactions such as snakebites, recreational drugs or transfusion reactions. The Lab tech's records are the backbone of initial medical information which is filed and transferred to larger medical facilities for the ongoing care of patients.

One of the most valuable pieces of medical equipment that we use for testing is the IL ACL ELITE PRO system. It is a fully automated, high productivity analyzer designed specifically for clinical use in the hemostatsis laboratory. A hemostat is an agent, such as a chemical, that stops bleeding or hemorrhaging. For the laymen this machine is used for coagulation and /or fibrinolysis testing which measures in seconds how long the blood takes to form a clot. If you take a blood thinner the analyzer can help monitor the dosage of Coumadin (blood thinner medication). This particular machine is a fully automated computer-contolled, microcentrifugal analyzer. Cenrtrifuge is used as a force to separate blood particles in an enclosed space and sometimes it may dehydrate for certain specific testing.

Brent Parks Lab Tech and Director of the Lab at the Hospital stated that, "Within the past year his staff has served over 18,000 patients." Patient testing traces communicable diseases through the "top-of-the-line" medical equipment and there is no substandard equipment at OCH. OCH houses the best state of the art equipment of any hospital its size in the region.

An example of the medical equipment at OCH is the "Cell Dyn Ruby Hematology Analyzer" and the "Vitros 5.1 FS." The Ruby is an instrument that counts the patient's blood cells. It can distinguish between the red blood cells, white blood cells and the platelets. The red blood cells carry oxygen to the tissues throughout the body. The white blood cells fight infection and platelets help in blood clotting and scab formation. For instance, when a doctor orders a CBC (Complete Blood Count) the patient's blood is put through the analyzer and with these results the doctor will be able to determine if the patient has an infection from that particular sample. The patient will also be able to tell if they are anemic.

The Vitros 5.1 FS Chemistry Analyzer is a unique system in that it uses a dry slide technology to run the test on blood, spinal fluid, and urine. The results are determined by a color change or electrical current. The 5.1 has the ability to run basic chemistry tests like glucose which screen for and manage conditions like Diabetes. Kidney function tests like bun and Creatinine, liver functions and cholesterol tests help the physician monitor treatment for heart disease and determine whether CT and other diagnostic procedures can be performed. Therapeutic drug levels are also done to assure the patient is taking the correct dose to correct these conditions and to prevent harmful side effects. The results get to the physician faster because OCH has the equipment and it is not necessary to send it out to another facility.

The reason that the Okemah Community Hospital can access to this kind of quality equipment is a working relationship between the OCH and vendors who are able to showcase their new instruments in our local Hospital. Cutting-edge medical equipment owned by OCH offers to other hospitals and clinics an opportunity, not only to view, but to observe how the new tool is being used. The Hospital is an excellent source to market the new device which now is available to other health facilities. The Cherokee Nation recently visited the Hospital and bought one of the pieces of equipment that was being utilized there.

Brent Parks and his staff have provided excellent health care for the Muscogee Creek Nation and the Okemah Community. He has worked for the system for over 13 years, along with others who have been employed for much longer and have a history of proven continuity for the health service of our people. Brent reiterates that "Our hospital has the best equipment available today and we are in no way substandard in the diagnosis and care of our patients."

Brent Parks, MT, (AMT), Lab Director Margaret Gaxiol, Lab Assistant, Carol Epperson MT (AMT), Medical Tech, Float Tracy Hill MLT (ASCP),Co-AG, Medical Tech Kerry Scott Medical Tech, MT (ASCP), Assistant Lab, Chemistry Supervisor Stephanie Seminole State College Tammy Walker, MLT (ASCP),Hematology Supervisor Medical Technology Bruce Richardson, MLT (ASCP),General Emergency Tech, Medical Tech, Tamara Bighead, MLT (ASCP), Night Tech. Andy Wheeler, MLT (ASCP) Medical Tech.

HEALTHNOTES

Real values and what matters during the holidays: coping with holiday stress

Gloria Moore
MSMFT, Family Therapist
MCN Diabetes Program

OKMULGEE — "There are only 25 days left until Christmas."

What goes through your mind when you hear those words? Some people experience feelings of joy and eagerness while some experience worry and dread. For others the holidays are a source of anxiety and even depression.

For persons with diabetes, caring for your emotional health is especially important during the holidays. Stress affects your ability to make healthy lifestyle choices and to control diabetes.

Choosing not to use healthy coping behaviors can get in the way of your regular routine of diabetes self-care behaviors. The American Association of Diabetes Educators (AADE) has identified Healthy Coping as one of the key Self-care Behaviors. This means that Healthy Coping is as important as testing your blood sugar or eating healthy food.

Check out your attitude about the holidays

Consider how expectations and values influence your thinking about the holidays. These may be clues to help you understand and take some steps to lessen holiday stress.

Great expectations

It may help to examine your expectations of the holidays to see if they are reasonable. Take a closer look at what you expect from yourself, your family and friends to help uncover sources of stress. Identifying the types of expectations is the first step to taking control of unwanted, unhelpful stressful feelings. The next step would be to list a possible action to prevent or lessen stress that can come with each expectation of yourself, your family members and your friends.

Type of Expectation Actions to Prevent or Lessen the Stress

- Giving gifts to all
- Draw names, each person gives and receives a gift
- Not enough money or no money to buy gifts (Remember love is not about cost and number of gifts.)
- Stick to a holiday budget
- Taking too much responsibility (Make a list of what you want others to contribute to holiday meal the meal and ask them to bring it.)

What does the holiday season mean to you?

What is important about the holiday season to you? Think of the values you tie to the importance of the holidays. Sometimes it helps to remember how past holiday stress has interfered with what you think the holidays should mean. Holiday stress may be related to "Pre-Holiday Dreads" such as:

- No time or it takes too much time to shop for gifts
- he burden of finding gifts for all on the gift-list
- Over-spending the budget to buy gifts
- The worry that your cooking will not please everyone coming to the holiday meal
- Hurtful memories and/or traumatic experiences during past holidays
- Dreading the first holiday time without the loved one who has died or not with you

These above thoughts and behaviors can get in the way of experiencing your real values of the holidays. Some of these old ways may not harmonize with your values. Each situation can become an opportunity to do things differently this holiday season.

Make an 'adoption' plan

You can adopt changes to include making healthy choices to take care of your emotional health before and during the holidays. Here are some of the ways you can overcome the struggle of feeling dread, worry, and being pressured.

- Let go of unrealistic goals you have about yourself, your family and friends.
- Remember the values you tie to the holiday time, what and why you celebrate.
- Work on the changes you are willing to make during the holiday season.
- Seek help if you struggle with sadness that comes from not sharing this holiday time with a loved one who has passed away or is not with you.
- Allow yourself time to be with people who care about you.
- Talk to a counselor if the sadness keeps you from functioning during this time.

Diabetes control is possible for you during the holidays. Your choice to use healthy coping behavior by making changes in your thinking and actions can help you to get closer to your real values and what matters most to you during the holiday season.

Heart

Continued from A1

The Diabetes Program staffs in each clinic community are looking for volunteers to enroll in the fifth year of the Healthy Heart Project (HHP). Approximately 10 participants from each clinic community will be recruited.

National Health Statistics state that health disease and stroke account for 70 percent of deaths in people with diabetes. These risks are two to four times higher in persons with diabetes than those without diabetes. The Healthy Heart Project is a special grant program that uses the current medical and behavioral science to help reduce these risks in American Indians living in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. What is the Healthy Heart Project?

The HHP provides intensive case management to persons with diabetes to help reduce their high risk for heart disease and stroke. A case management team, consisting of a RN case manager, exercise manager and a dietician, assists patients to bring all available clinical, educational, and lifestyle services to help reduce these risk.

Current research has shown that risks can be reduced by controlling blood sugar, blood pressure, cholesterol, and weight. Other important measures in maintaining heart health include taking aspirin daily, exercising daily and stopping smoking. The Healthy Heart Project focuses on all of these areas.

Why Should You Join the MCN Healthy Heart Project?

- It will help you keep a check on all diabetes risks.
- You will be helped to keep these risks in healthy ranges.
- You will help us learn the best ways to prevent heart disease in persons with diabetes.

Who Can Join the Project?

- Persons with type 2 diabetes, 18 years of age and older who are willing to participate in monthly clinic visits until all risk factors are in healthy ranges. You should be willing to participate in the project for up to 2 years.

For more information, contact the Diabetes Program in your clinic area. You may also call the Healthy Heart Project Data Coordinator at the MCN Health System at (918) 756-3334, Ext. 253.

Special Government Program - Zero Down,
NO MONEY OUT OF YOUR POCKET!!
If you own land or Family will give you land.
BAD CREDIT OK!

HOMES
of Tulsa

9445 East Admirial Place~ Tulsa, OK 74115 -
pho. (918)832-9888 ~ fax (918)832-7633

100% Government Loan:
Zero down if you own land or still own money
on your land. Brick Skirting, Porches,
Gutters and landscaping available
(site built appearance) BAD CREDIT OK!!
Trades Welcome: (918)832-9888

Seasonal spirit celebrated at tribal complex

MNN/*Gerald Wofford*

Pictured above from left to right are Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief of Staff Mike Flud, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and National Council Speaker Thomas Yahola serving Thanksgiving dinner in the MCN District Court Room to Creek Nation employees the week before the holiday.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

OIC Caroling Event

OKMULGEE — Many thanks to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Departments for donating to our Children's Christmas fund-raiser for the Okmulgee Indian Community.

The children will be Christmas caroling Dec. 18, 2009 to the elderly. They will have their Christmas party afterwards at the OIC.

NAWS Pool Tournament

TULSA — An Eight Ball Pool Extravaganza proceeds of which will go to "care packages" (benefiting currently active Native American service personnel in Iraq or Afghanistan).

The Tournament will be held at Magoo's Dec. 12-13, 2009.

Registration begins at 9 a.m., Dec. 12, 2009 with play on Saturday at 10 a.m and Sunday at 1 p.m.

Players will play no limit. Entry fee $25.00 ($10 Goes to care packages) and donations will be appreciated.

Tournament will be run by Magoo's management. Double Elimination/ Race to three, eight ball rules will apply.

Tables will be 9ft., for men and 7 ft., for women. The tournament is open to quarter degree Indian blood quantum and higher. Players must bring CDIB card and I.D.

For more information contact Event Coordinator J. Alford at (918) 587-11.

Grant Chapel Methodist Church Christmas service

WELTY — Grant Chapel United Methodist Church extends an invitation to all members, former members and friends to their Christmas Celebration on Dec. 13, 2009. Worship begins at 11 a.m., followed by a fellowship dinner.

The Christmas program will include an after lunch visit from Santa. Grant Chapel is a member of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference of the United Methodist Church. Pastor is Lay Missioner Josephine Chalakee Allen-Deere.

Grants' worship times are every other Sunday and the doors are open to all.

Newtown United Methodist Church

OKMULGEE — Please join the Newtown United Methodist Church as they celebrate the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ. The service will begin at 7 p.m. Wed., Dec. 23, and will be followed by a Christmas program.

Newtown UMC is expecting a visit from Santa Claus and his reindeer with gifts for everyone. The evening program will include a Christmas play, holiday songs and refreshments.

For more information, please contact Rev. David Dunson at (918) 758-7002. Newtown United Methodist Church is located on the northwest side of Okmulgee on W. Eufaula St.

MFSI Workshop/Class

OKMULGEE — On Dec.12, Bruce Edwards will be giving instruction on the introduction to green house growing and composting with worms. The class begins at 10:30 a.m. with lunch from 12 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Following lunch there will be a more advanced class which will continue until 4:00p.m.

WILSON — There will be an instructional pumpkin bread workshop held at the Wilson Indian Community Center at 3 p.m., Dec. 13, 2009.

Both events are free and open to the public. For more information, call MFSI at (918) 756-5915.

Food Sovereignty Symposium

OKMULGEE — The Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative is happy to announce the date is set for the second annual Food Sovereignty Symposium. The Symposium will be held in Okmulgee Feb. 12-13, 2010.

There are many exciting things in the making for this year including butchering a buffalo for the welcoming feast, special workshops and events for youth, music concerts, and lots of highly respected, thought provoking, social-change-inspiring guest.

For more information, call MFSI at (918) 756-5915.

'The Fife Collection: A New Generation' Exhibit

BROKEN ARROW— A special exhibit, "The Fife Collection: A New Generation," that includes works of 21 artists from a single family will be on exhibit at the Broken Arrow Historical Society Museum now showing.

This exhibit will run Nov. 21, 2009 through Jan. 9, 2010 at the Broken Arrow Historical Society Museum.

Hours will be Tuesday through Friday form 10 a.m., to 4 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m., to 2 p.m.

For more information, contact Betty Gerber, Executive Director of the Broken Arrow Historical Society, located at 400 S. Main, in Broken Arrow, Okla., at (918) 258-2616.

PROGRAMNOTES

Food Distribution Program offers Nutrition Education Class

Media Release
MCN Food Distribution

OKMULGEE — The Food Distribution Program has events planned for the upcoming months. The will be focusing on families, with a special Focus on elders. Also, have planned special events throughout the year for Children and their families.

Realizing how important healthy eating choices are to all generations, FDP is dedicated to providing additional information regarding nutrition needs for a lifetime of better health, along with programs and events made available to our citizens to help achieve that goal.

The Food Distribution Program now has a new Nutrition Specialist, who has recently joined the team. Her name is Virginia Williams and she has a background in Nutrition Education. Williams has spent most of her career working in Community Education and in the field of home health and hospice care. Williams is a graduate of Weleetka High School, married with four children and two grandchildren.

She is happy to be apart of the Food Distribution Program and looks forward to the approaching new year which will bring with it these new plans.

One of our featured programs scheduled will be puppet shows for children.

The puppets will present nutrition education to the kids, by providing facts in a fun atmosphere. This will give children the opportunity to continue learning steps to healthy eating while having fun.

An additional phase of the new plans concern the installation of a "Kids Korner," which will focus on family and provide helpful tips on nutrition, meal planning and preparation.

Another area of special focus is elderly nutrition. They have so much wisdom to offer us all. Their traditions and stories, which they carry with them are valuable in order to maintain our culture. Our children and all of our future generations depend on this.

It is the mission at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Food Program, to play an active role in promoting healthy nutrition choices and a more active lifestyle.

If you have any questions, or are interested in joining the Nutrition Education Class which will meet each Tuesday at 10 a.m., at the Okmulgee site, which is located at 3001 N. Wood Drive in Okmulgee, Oklahoma please feel free to contact the Food Distribution Office at 918-756-3467.

Social Services staff out Jan. 26-28, 2010

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — Beginning Jan. 26-28, 2010, the Social Services staff will be attending training in Tulsa.

If citizens need assistance during this week, please make arrangements to come in Monday, Jan. 25 or Friday, Jan. 29.

Some staff will be available to answer phone calls and provide emergency food vouchers for funeral services.

All other requests for assistance will be handled beginning Friday, Jan. 29. We appreciate your understanding and patience during this week.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Manager, Julie Ziriax at (918) 759-9967.

2009 Festival gear for sale in time for the holiday season

Media Release
MCN Tourism & Recreation

OKMULGEE — The MCN Office of Tourism & Recreation has 2009 Muscogee Nation Festival hoodies for sale.

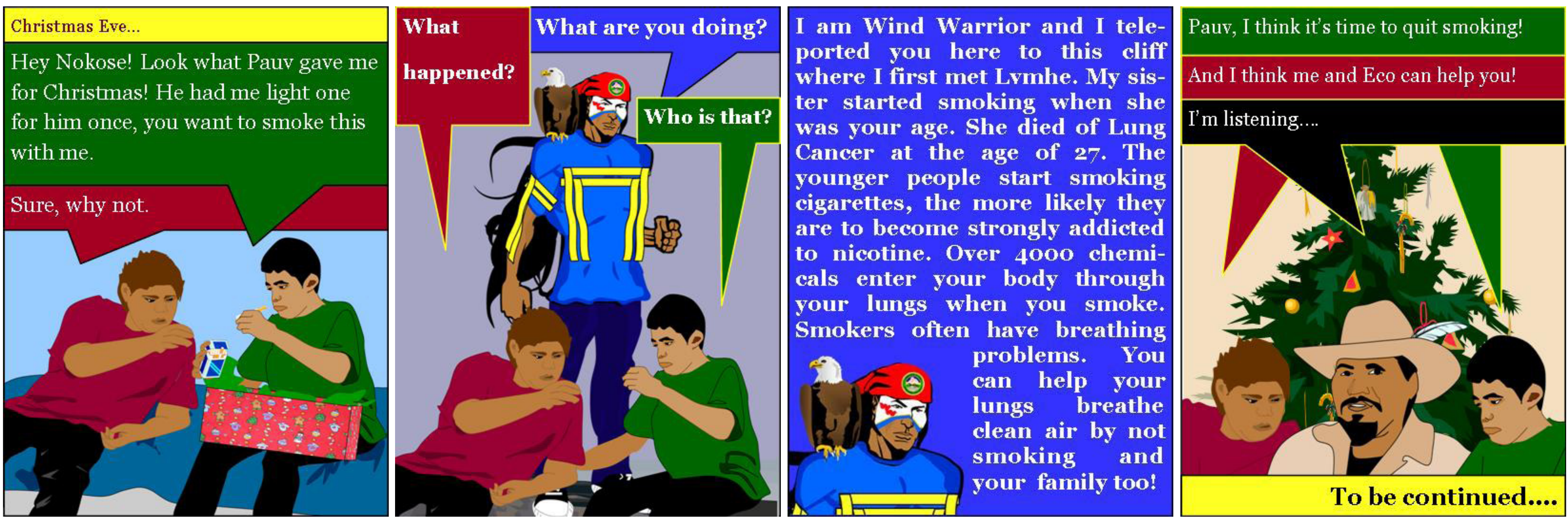
The hoodies are $20 for adult sizes small-XL, and $2 per X above XL up to 3X. Colors available are black, gray, maroon and brown.

Children's hoodies are also available in sizes small-large and are $15 each.

There are also T-shirts, and long sleeve T-shirts available for sale. They are $10 each up to XL. The prices increase $2 per X after XL up to 3X.

Children's T-shirts and long sleeve T-shirts are available in sizes small-large and are $8 each.

If you are interested in a 2009 Festival hoodie or other Festival items, please contact the Office of Tourism & Recreation at (918) 732-7992 or tourism@muscogeenation-nsn.gov to place an order. Orders will be taken throughout the week and be filled on Fridays.


Christmas Eve...
Hey Nokose! Look what Pauv gave me for Christmas! He had me light one for him once, you want to smoke this with me.
Sure, why not.
What happened?
What are you doing?
Who is that?
I am Wind Warrior and I teleported you here to this cliff where I first met Lvmhe. My sister started smoking when she was your age. She died of Lung Cancer at the age of 27. The younger people start smoking cigarettes, the more likely they are to become strongly addicted to nicotine. Over 4000 chemicals enter your body through your lungs when you smoke. Smokers often have breathing problems. You can help your lungs breathe clean air by not smoking and your family too!
Pauv, I think it's time to quit smoking!
And I think me and Eco can help you!
I'm listening....
To be continued....

Creek ladies explore opportunities

• Youth Works Program examines women in technology

MCN/*Cindy Russell*

Pictured above are (left to right): Carol Bevenue, Lori Sanchez, Andrea Bagby, Kayla Rabbi and Jordan Brown (not pictured is Cindy Russell, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Youth Coordinator) at OSUIT's 'Women in Technology' event.

OPENING DOORS

OKMULGEE — Recently the young ladies of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Youth Works Program were invited to an inaugural "Women In Technology" event.

The nature of this event was to create a personal and open environment for women to engage with faculty and business women.

"Women In Technology" was planned so these young women could get exposure to various career opportunities for talented women, as well as girls grades 9-12 interested in high-paying, technology-driven fields.

All participants had the chance to network with various industry representatives - the very same persons who hire college graduates.

These ladies had the choice of which profession they wanted to explore. Their choices were construction, engineering, information technology, nursing, or orthotics and prosthetics. For more information contact MCN Employment and Training at (918)-732-7775.

MCN/*Cindy Russell*

Education

Continued from A1

www.mvsktc.org
College Of The Muscogee Nation

MNN/*Mallory Bible*

Pictured above College of Muscogee Nation President Robert Bible speaks at ground breaking. Picture Below a traditional blessing performed by Judge Patrick E. Moore and Amos McNac.

"This is just… jubilation," said Director for Institutional Effectiveness, Dr. James King. "To see the culmination of our growth as an educational institution reach this day, we couldn't be more proud."

The entire day was Muscogee down to the core. There was a traditional blessing on the ground, with guests treated to a Creek song sung by future students from the Head Start Program.

Even the architecture team got in on the fun, incorporating Muscogee culture into the final design of the building, a building that will no doubt have an increasing number of visitors as the years pass.

"Our enrollment just keeps going up," said president Robert Bible. "I believe our young people have seen the commitment that the tribe is making to education and they are excited for the opportunities that a one-of-a-kind place like this will present to them."

To find more information on the College of the Muscogee Nation, or to inquire about enrollment, please visit www.mvsktc.org

NASA awarded OSUIT's Outstanding Student Club Award for 2009

CMN/*Josh Clough*

Pictured above are members of the Native American Student Association who recently the recipients of the Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology's Outstanding Student Club Award for 2009.

Josh Clough
CMN Librarian

OKMULGEE — One of the newest organizations on the Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology (OSUIT)/College of the Muscogee Nation campus was recently recognized as one of its best.

The Native American Student Association (NASA) received the Outstanding Student Club Award for 2009 at the OSUIT President's Round Table Luncheon on Nov. 4, 2009 and took home a hefty silver cup trophy as visual evidence of the achievement.

"We know what we can do," commented Tenetke Harjo, NASA President, "now everybody else knows what we can do."

The club earned the award by hosting more campus and community events, with more member participation, than any of the other 18 organizations on campus. NASA took part in 35 total activities over the past year, including co-hosting a powwow, constructing floats for two parades, setting up booths at Carnifall and Relay for Life, creating two teams to walk in the Relay for Life, volunteering at the Native American Musical Festival in Tulsa, attending two higher education conferences, giving stickball and stomp dance demonstrations, and holding several fundraising events such as Indian taco sales and raffles.

The Native student organization's 13 community-wide events totalled six more than any other club at OSUIT.

NASA officers Harjo, Amy Williamson (Vice-President), Sanica Lining (Student Representative), Dustye Monahwee (Treasurer), Rachelle Flake (Secretary) and faculty sponsor Mekko Tyner expressed surprise at being named the outstanding club for 2009, given NASA's newcomer status to the college's organizational lineup.

"We didn't think we would win," said Williamson.

"You should have seen the looks on our faces. We are very honored—and surprised," stated Flake.

Monahwee and Lining couldn't believe the announcement either because NASA had been recognized as a campus organization only since the spring of 2008.

In order to gain recognition, a club must have at least 25 members and must support itself financially for a year before becoming eligible for OSU funds.

NASA'S ability to not only survive but prosper during this probationary period speaks volumes about students in the organization and the Indian community on campus as a whole.

"It reflects well on our students and shows their willingness to participate," said Tyner. "We not only stood but prevailed, and this demonstrates how dedicated our students are."

The club could not have won the award without the support of numerous individuals and organizations and wishes to thank the College of the Muscogee Nation, the Muscogee Creek Nation Office of the Second Chief, the National Council Women's Caucus, the Tulsa Indian Community and other outside donors for their generosity.

For more information on NASA, please contact the College of the Muscogee Nation at (918) 758-1480.

Children's Mental Health Initiative SPOTLIGHT - B5

'The Fife Collection: A New Generation' ART- B7

FEATURES

National Council shares and serves

• Second annual Thanksgiving food drive feeds 40 families

MCN/*National Council*

Pictured above are Muscogee (Creek) Nation staff who helped assemble, package and distribute food baskets for the second annual Thanksgiving Food Drive this past month.

THANKS AND GIVING

OKMULGEE — On Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2009 the National Council and Staff packed Thanksgiving food baskets and delivered to citizens who were less fortunate this year.

The second annual Thanksgiving Food Drive was very successful with over 40 Thanksgiving food baskets prepared and donated. The National Council, along with other departments, entities, and donors generously gave and supported the Thanksgiving Food Drive. The baskets included a turkey, stuffing, corn bread, green beans, corn, gravy, pumpkin, cranberry sauce, macaroni and cheese, sweet potatoes and mashed potatoes.

The National Council would like to thank those who donated money, food and time to make this an outstanding event. The National Council looks forward to the third annual Thanksgiving Food Drive next year!

For more information, please contact the Office of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council at (918) 732-7966.

MCN/*National Council*

Montesoma Baptist honors veterans

• Mvskoke Honor Guard and vets visit MBC

MCN/*Liz Yahola*

The Montesoma Baptist Church honored Muscogee (Creek) Nation veterans Nov. 1, 2009 in recognition of Veterans' Day 2009.

Submitted by Liz Yahola
Montesoma Baptist Church

OKEMAH — On Nov. 1, 2009 the Montesoma Baptist Church was blessed with the presence of six Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard and 17 veterans.

According to church member Liz Yahola, every Sunday morning during the beginning of worship service, the church has a silent moment and prayer for service men and women serving over seas.

"I was told that some churches long ago had prayer service, sometimes all night prayer service for the veterans during the times of war. To explain this more, when I was a youngster, our family went to Sand Creek Church, east of Wetumka, with my Paternal Grandmother for Sunday Service when they were honoring the Veterans in November in the late 1940s," Yahola remembers.

At the appointed time, the veterans gathered into formation and began to march around the church ground.

"I can remember to this day how impressed I was, to experience this and to see my Dad marching with them. I was so proud to see that and felt the respect and honor they so deserve," she states.

Being appointed as a member to our Program Committee, we met to discuss what we would do this year to honor our Veterans.

"I mentioned to the Committee what I had witnessed as a child and how it made me feel. They agreed that it would be a good idea to try this. It would be something different to do in order to show our appreciation and honor them for their sacrifice and continued service to this country," Yahola said.

Invitations were sent to the Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard and veterans we had listed from Montesoma and others from family and friends that we knew. Phillip Coon, a POW, also joined the festivities that day.

The program started with the blowing of the horn, followed by the gathering and marching of the Veterans on the Church ground as well as a flag-raising ceremony. Morning Worship Veteran Speaker, Rev. Willis Knight, announced the supreme sacrifice list which included some of our WWII and Killed in Action (KIA) veterans.

"I give praise, honor, and glory to our Father in Heaven for the outcome of this great event, for his protection to our loved ones, and for their safe return home from Iraq and Afghanistan," Yahola stated.

To carry on with the prayers offered in the past by our elders is a tradition we will carry on at Montesoma every Sunday for our past, present, and future veterans. "It was a blessing to witness the heartfelt event, as I watched my son, grandson, brothers, and loved ones marching as veterans to be honored. Mvto Suletawvlke," Yahola said.

MCN T&R teams with state to promote tourism

Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

"Native American tourism is a landscape to educate and bond past and contemporary, from the sacred land to the eldest elder..."

- Cherokee Hicks
Director of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tourism & Recreation

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Tourism & Recreation was requested to join a panel of tribal tourism professionals whose objective will be to share insight into the opportunities for tribes, communities and attraction to build sustainable tourism initiative and generate travel through strategic partnerships.

The Office of Tourism and Recreation has coordinated events for MCN such as the Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival along with more than 40 other events and had the honor of being requested to participate in the 2009 Governor's Conference on Tourism. Cherokee Hicks, Director of Travel and Tourism was named one of the speakers of Oklahoma Travel Industry Associations 2009 Governors Conference.

Hicks along with other directors of tribal Tourism and Recreations departments and notable professionals such as Oklahoma Gov. Brad Henry, Lt. Gov. Jari Askins, Social Media Specialist Sheila Scarborough and Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen Shoshanna Wasserman interacted with some 300 representatives from Oklahoma's various attractions, communities and travel related businesses as speakers of the 2009 session.

The conference was sponsored by the Oklahoma travel industry Association and the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department. Serving as a networking and educational event the 2009 theme was "Moving 4ward 2gether," which stressed the importance of joining resources in order to propel the economic impact of Oklahoma tourism industry.

Workshops and general session covered topics such as using and optimizing social media, finding personal leadership style, developing tourism initiatives with American Indian tribes in Oklahoma, attracting film projects to communities, writing itineraries that work, engaging value seekers, exceeding customer expectations and much more.

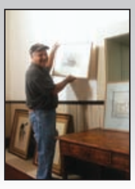
"This is always the most important event for Oklahoma's tourism," said Hardy Watkins, Executive Direction of the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department.

Hicks began her career with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in 2003. Since becoming Director, she has made strides in the development plan in promoting and maintaining Muscogee culture and recreation sites. Hicks states that her greatest accomplishment has been the reconstruction of the Claude Cox Omniplex softball fields.

For more information, please contact Tourism & Recreation at (918) 732-7993.

CULTURE B2

Council House Museum adds to historic collection

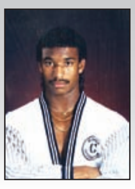


LIVING B3

And still the waters run: A Brush Hill Odyssey

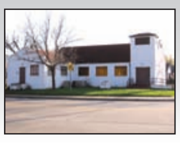
LIFESTYLES B4

Anthony Q. Newman



SPOTLIGHT B5

Fife memorial UMC gets a new home



OBITUARIES B6

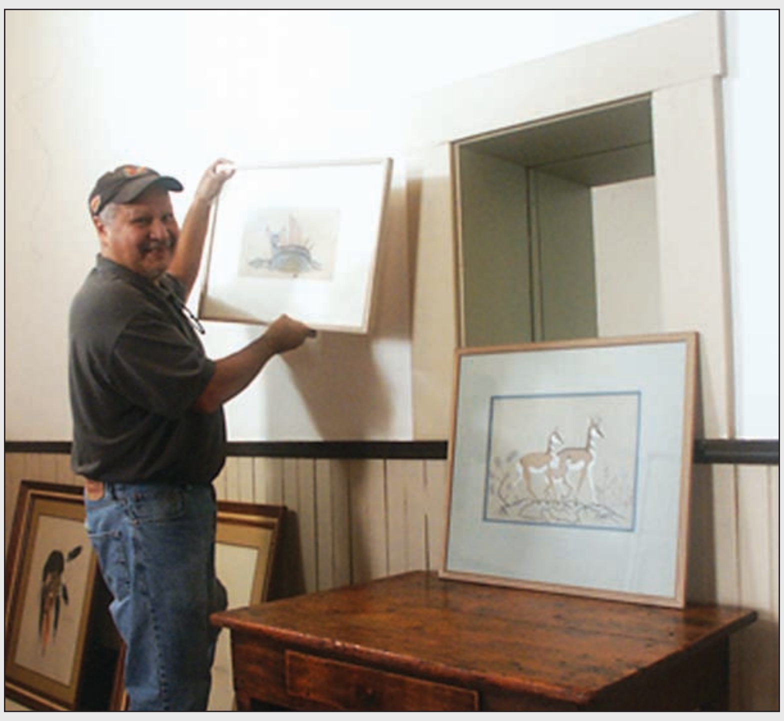
Eliza Davis

ADVERTISEMENT B8

Summer Youth Employment deadline application information

MUSEUMUPDATES

Council House Museum adds to historic collection



CCHM/*Courtesy*

Pictured above is Creek Council House Museum Curator Ted Isham hanging a couple of the new pieces donated by Ida Marie Koerner.

Media Release
Creek Council House Museum

OKMULGEE — The Creek Council House Museum unveiled the newest acquisitions to its collection Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2009.

These acquisitions were made possible by a generous bequest from the estate of Ida Marie Koerner, who was the Okmulgee County Treasurer for many years and an ardent supporter of the Creek Council House Museum.

The museum invites everyone to come and view these wonderful works of art. There are three original Jerome Tiger (Creek/Seminole) paintings: two of Stickball players and one portrait.

Jerome was one of the first Native American artists to break out of the conventional flat painting style of an outline that was filled with solid color. He introduced contouring and shading to his images embodying them with three-dimensional life.

We are also pleased to have a gouache painting by his daughter, Dana Tiger (Creek/Seminole/Cherokee). This is especially dear to our hearts as it is an image of Shell Shakers preparing for a demonstration dance at the Creek Council House Museum's Council House Indian Art Festival.

There are also two portraits of Creek children from the Okmulgee area painted by Chuck Wilson (Creek/Seminole). Mr. Wilson was born in Okmulgee and attended OSU-Okmulgee. He was well known for his western landscapes as well as his portraits.

There are two paintings of deer by Acee Blue Eagle (Creek/Pawnee). Blue Eagle was an accomplished flute player, dancer, illustrator, teacher and painter. He was named "Outstanding Indian in the United States" in 1958 and he established the Art Department at Bacone College and was its first Director.

Joan Hill's (Creek/Cherokee) 1966 oil painting "Indian Ribbon Dancers" is also part of the collection. Depicting the women at a Creek Ribbon Dance they seem to float as light as ballerinas shimmering through the evening's heat.

There are two paintings which represent the era of opposition to allotment. The first is by Johnnie Lee Diacon (Creek) and the other is by Richard Whitman (Creek/Pawnee). Both paintings use iconic images relating to Chitto Harjo in order to convey the power of their struggle.

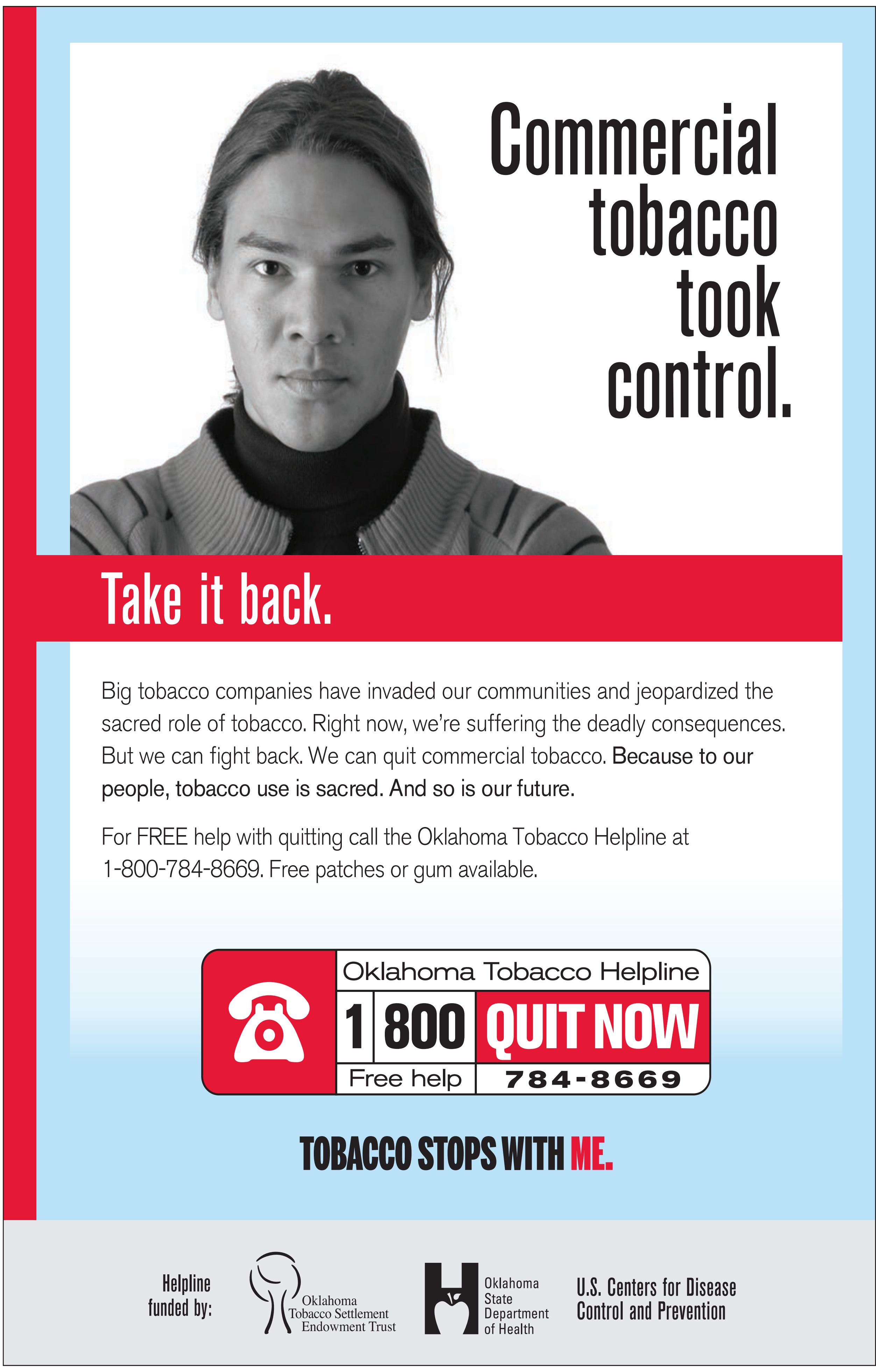
A wonderful bronze by Oklahoma's own Mekko Lewis (Creek) of a weeping warrior is a powerful representation of an emotion rarely seen in art that depicts a warrior. There is also a wonderful addition to the museum's collection of Phillip Coon's sandstone carvings.

Another fine addition to the museum's collections is two pieces of Sequoyah (Cherokee) pottery. In the late 1930s, Sequoyah Training School students produced effigy pottery that after 60 years still holds a special charm.

We were also able to locate a wide pine board table that was original to the Council House. It is nice to see it come home.

Museum Director David Anderson said, "This was a most unexpected and welcome gift from Mrs. Koerner. Because of her generosity we were able to add to specific areas of our collections, filling in gaps in our collection".

For more information about the Ida Marie Koerner exhibit, please call the museum at 756-2324.



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Cvmp Ca Kuce

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Silent Night

Perehem Tvlofvn
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Estucet Hvsvtketv
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Perehem Tvlofvn
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Klist Pucase Heckes

Mvskoke Country

The Road Back to Sustainable Living

by James Treat

Hundreds of American Indian and Alaska Native leaders gathered last month for the Native Peoples Native Homelands Climate Change Workshop.

Meeting ahead of the United Nations climate summit in Copenhagen, they hoped to exchange insights, discuss strategies, and add their voices to the increasingly heated debate over global warming.

The four-day workshop was organized around the theme "Indigenous Perspectives and Solutions," exploring both sides of our environmental crisis: how climate change is affecting native communities, and how native communities are addressing climate change.

Major funding came from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Nancy Maynard, director of NASA's Tribal College and University Project, welcomed participants by emphasizing the shared vision of space scientists and indigenous peoples who "see the earth as a unified, living system."

Other sponsors included some of the leading organizations in Indian country: the American Indian Higher Education Consortium, the National Congress of American Indians, the Intertribal Council on Utility Policy, the Indigenous Environmental Network, and Honor the Earth.

The workshop was hosted by the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community at their Mystic Lake Casino Hotel near Minneapolis.

* * *

The program was packed with informative presentations on the many environmental challenges confronting native peoples and native homelands. Plenary addresses featured some of the leading climate scientists and indigenous environmentalists in North America.

Concurrent sessions on the first day addressed various topical issues: water resources, habitat restoration, community development, local economies, solar and wind energy, alternative fuels, and science education. On the second and third days, regional breakout sessions allowed participants to discuss climate change impacts and adaptations with their native neighbors.

Tribal college students from around the country were on hand to present their environmental research projects, many of which are supported by federal funding. The White House sent three representatives from the Council on Environmental Quality for an open-mic "listening session" that ran several hours overtime.

I'm happy to report that Mvskoke country was well represented at this important event.

The Climate Change Workshop was co-chaired by Dan Wildcat, a Yuchi citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation who teaches at Haskell Indian Nations University. Mia Torres, a Mvskoke student at Haskell, opened the proceedings on the first morning by singing the familiar hymn "Heleluyan Yvhikvres."

Vicky Karhu, codirector of the Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative, presented their work in an afternoon session on indigenous agriculture. Ben Yahola, MFSI's other codirector, blessed one of the midday meals with a rousing invocation delivered in the Mvskoke language.

Ben also shared information about the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Green Government Initiative, which was enacted by the National Council on July 25, 2009 and authorized by Chief Ellis on Aug. 5, 2009.

This new law is a vital first step on the road back to sustainable living in Mvskoke country. It's encouraging to know that our elected leaders are ready to reclaim their role as one of America's original green governments.

* * *

The workshop concluded with a discussion of the future of climate change in Indian country.

These concerns have been summarized in the Mystic Lake Declaration, which acknowledges that "all sovereigns must work together to adapt and take action on real solutions that will ensure our collective existence" on a warmer planet. "Unless our homelands are in a state of good health our peoples will not be truly healthy. This inseparable relationship must be respected for the sake of our future generations."

In keeping with indigenous traditions, the emerging green economy must value life-enhancing activity, where "wealth is based not on monetary riches but rather on healthy relationships, relationships with each other and with all of the other natural elements and beings of creation."

The Mystic Lake Declaration will be delivered to the Copenhagen summit in December: "We invite humanity to join with us to improve our collective human behavior so that we may develop a more sustainable world." You can read the full text of this landmark document, and add your name to those who have endorsed it, by following the links at http://portal3.aihec.org/sites/npnh/Pages/Default.aspx

Let's hope that world leaders will take action before it is too late.

* * *

You can find more information about Mvskoke country, including an archive of previous columns, at http://mvskokecountry.wordpress.com/

I welcome your comments on anything I've written, as well as your suggestions for things I should be writing about. You can reach me by email at treaty@illinois.edu

Indian Falls Creek update: *A challenge to Native American churches across the U.S.*

by Victor Cope
Executive Director of Indian Falls Creek

DAVIS — (Continued from Nov. MNN) The Project: Encourage every Indian congregation nationwide to participate as one to reach our Native Peoples.

• New Ministries – Seek new ways or utilize old proven methods to reach our people (see list of possible ministries). THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX

• Children, Youth and Young Adults – Prioritize reaching these age groups. Develop strong programs because they are the future.

• Conference Attendance – Encourage members to attend special conferences like the Circle of Nations Women's Conference, Indian Leadership Conference, Indian Evangelism Conference, Associational Meetings, camps or similar meetings in your state.

We hope all our churches large and small will participate. WE WILL NEVER KNOW WHAT WE CAN ACHIEVE UNTIL WE TRY. We must do something because we are losing ground fast.

Indian Falls Creek encourages all our Indian congregations across our Nation to get involved.

Ministry Possibilities

• Revival Help – Churches find a neighboring church to volunteer for nursery, children's church, transportation and refreshment time. Allow all the members to experience the revival.

• Adopt a struggling church – For the purpose of ministry, repair, outreach or training.

• Vacation Bible School – Volunteer to do VBS for one of our churches that does not have VBS.

• Help a church to attend Indian Falls Creek – Raise funds to bring a new church or a church that has not been in years.

• Joint Revival or Crusade – Local congregations join together to reach their community for the Lord.

• School or Indian Boarding School Ministries – Adopt a school, volunteer to help or bring boarding school students to your church.

• Bible Study at School – Encourage youth to start ministries at school.

• Pow Wow Outreach – Setup a booth to hand out literature, witness, handout water, conduct Sunday morning worship or just have a good time talking to people.

• Tribal Festivals - Setup a booth to hand out literature, witness, handout water, conduct Sunday morning worship or just have a good time talking to people.

• Indian Softball, Basketball and Volleyball Tournaments - Setup a booth to hand out literature, witness, handout water, conduct Sunday morning worship or just have a good time talking to people.

• County and State Fair – Joint effort by local congregations. Setup a booth to hand out literature, witness, handout water or just have a good time talking to people.

• State Basketball Playoffs - Joint effort by local congregations. Setup a booth to hand out literature, witness, handout water or just have a good time talking to people.

• Shepherd Search – Reaching out to former pastors and their families that are no longer in the ministry. So we can encourage, pray and love them. With the hope that these men and their families will consider working with your pastor, your church or reenter the pastorate.

• Casino/Bar Ministry – Go where the people are. Ask if your church could setup a booth to offer help to gamblers needing help.

• Associations, Church or Area Challenges – To challenge each other to friendly competitions for a short term to encourage growth and fellowship.

• Block Party – Invitation to the community to visit your church (free food, fun and fellowship).

• Merge or Combine – Churches in an area to prayerfully consider merging as a means to effectively reach their community.

• Bible Study – Start a study in tribal facility.

• New Church – Local congregations join together and start a new work.

• Homework Help – Setup an assistance program in your church for students.

• Free the Ox – Congregations seek ways that would free their pastor so he could shepherd the Church more effectively. Some suggestions are; lawn care, home repairs, paint his house ,watch his children so he and his wife can go on a date, make a hospital visit for your pastor and offer to clean the church for your pastor.

Many of these challenges will go unrealized until someone (you) take the initiative with your sister neighboring churches to get involved and initiate any of these suggested ministries.

For more information, please contact Victor Cope at via e-mail at ndnrev@aol.com

And Still the Waters Run

Seventh Generation Warrior

Photos courtesy of George Windes

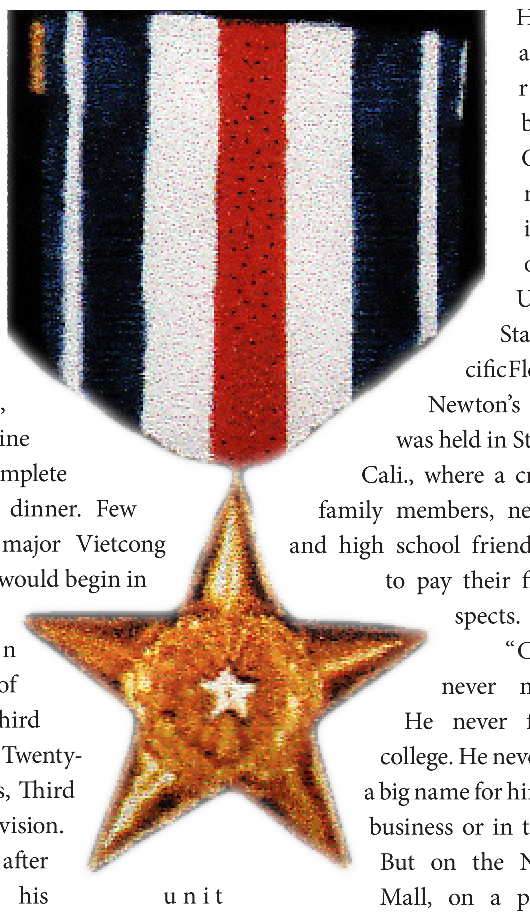
Pictured above are (left to right) Leonard Cecil and buddy in Vietnam.

by George Windes
CMCA Historian

YORBA LINDA, Calif., — The firstborn child of a couple in-love is always welcomed. His Creek grandmother was especially thrilled with his arrival, as was his great grandmother. He was a quiet helpful youngster and the family women loved to cook for him. He grew tall, robust and healthy. Eventually he entered Stagg High School in Stockton, Calif., where he would become an outstanding football player, a formidable wrestler and a skilled member of the school rifle association. The boy had grown into a man. He was nicknamed Chuck.

His full name was Leonard Lee Newton. He was born April 5, 1948 in California where his grandparents had moved to find opportunity. His aged great grandfather lived nearby, an original enrollee of the MCN. When Leonard finished high school, college wasn't in his immediate cards. A war was being fought in the fields and jungles of South Vietnam. Thousands of young Americans were going off to serve their country. He heard the call and answered it.

Leonard enlisted in the Marines. Before his tour of duty began on Dec. 6, 1967, he traveled to Arvin, Calif., to visit with his beloved grandparents, Shead and Edna Newton. I'm sure Edna shed fearful tears as she watched her grandson drive away down the dirt road leading from their rural home.



Leonard celebrated Christmas in Vietnam, with his Marine buddies, complete with a steak dinner. Few realized the major Vietcong Tet Offensive would begin in thirty days.

Newton was part of Company I, Third Battalion, Twenty-Sixth Marines, Third Marine Division. The day after Christmas his unit deployed to Chang Tri. Their assignment was to hold Hill 881 and area. I'll let fellow Marine, Charles F. Schneider tell the story from there:

19 January (1968) – 0800 :

Two squads from India's first platoon moved out on a patrol. Company Commander asked me to accompany them since he had a hunch we would make contact that day. Our mission was to recover a radio a recon unit had dropped in the brush where they had been ambushed the day previous.

Before we got very far, we made point-to-point contact with a NVA patrol. Our patrol was moving in column (the thick vegetation made that best for travel), the elephant grass was head high and… the enemy were on higher ground… and able to see us before we saw them. There was a sudden burst of automatic fire and two of our men fell wounded. We returned fire as best we could, but the rear could not fire because of our men in front. For the minute, the enemy had fire superiority and while they had us pinned down, they began to move people off to our left flank.

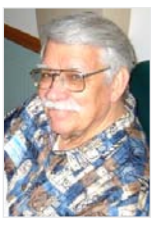
One of our machine gunners (PFC. Leonard Lee Newton) ran to the front to try and cover a withdrawal. The grass was so high you couldn't see to fire unless you stood up, so he got to his feet and began to fire his M-60 from the shoulder. The enemy fire slackened and we began to pull back, dragging the wounded. Again the fire picked up and again he stood and fired from the shoulder. The fifth time he did this, a sniper shot him through the right eye. It was about then we started receiving heavy fire from our left flank…

The subsequent story is an engaging one, but I feel too much sadness to continue. Google young Newton's full name and you can read it all yourself. Leonard Newton was just nineteen years of age. He was one of 60,000 Americans who would pay the ultimate price is defending our liberties in Vietnam. He was awarded the Silver Medal of Honor, as directed by the Commander in Chief of the United States Pacific Fleet. PFC Newton's funeral was held in Stockton, Cali., where a crowd of family members, neighbors and high school friends came to pay their final respects.

"Chuck" never married. He never finished college. He never made a big name for himself in business or in the arts. But on the National Mall, on a poignant black granite memorial sometimes called "the Wall," his name is found, carved on Panel 34E, Line 80.

He was a son, grandson and great grandson. He was a brother, nephew, cousin, friend. He was a Muscogee Creek Warrior, a seventh generation descendant from another Warrior, the Red Eagle of Alabama.

Windes has been an active member of the California Muscogee Creek Association for nearly a decade and is currently serving on the Board as historian. He may be reached at: georgewindes@gmail.com.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Robert Torres

SHAWNEE — At the Anadarko Warrior Open on Nov. 21, 2009, Robert Torres won first place in his weight division. He went with U.S. Grant High School where he is currently a freshman. This is his second year of wrestling. His first year of wrestling was for Jefferson Middle School. In his eighth grade year their he won first place at "The All City" tournament in his weight division in February 2009.

His parents are Serena Selumber and Venancio Torres.

He has one sibling, Matthew Torres.

Great grandmothers are the late Liza (Selumber) Hernandez and the late Lucy Selumber.

He is of the Tiger Clan.

Tyler Anderson

TULSA — Andersen Elementary School, 1200 S. Willow, is proud to have art teacher Tyler Randall represent them for 2009-2010 as Teacher of the Year.

This is Randall's fourth year to teach art at Andersen and he says "I have enjoyed working with students creatively, teaching them how to generate ideas and how to produce quality artwork."

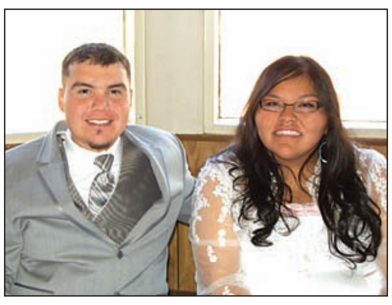
Many life lessons beyond the principles of design are taught in Randall's class. For instance, Randall demonstrates the importance of recycling by using materials such as milk cartons and liter bottles when making projects. Student artwork such as batiks, mosaics, string art, crayon etching, weaving, and many other art forms can be seen throughout the year at Andersen.

"It's really cool to be in Mr. Randall's class because he's nice and knows every kid really well. I didn't know much about etching until he taught me. I etched a dove and it turned out better than I thought it would," says fifth grader Cameron McMains.

Congratulations, Tyler Randall!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tony & Andrea Padilla



FLAGSTAFF, Ariz., — Tony Padilla and Andrea Dale were married Oct. 10, 2009, at Harvest Christian Fellowship Church with a wedding reception at the Elk Lodge in Flagstaff, Ariz.

Tony Padilla of Flagstaff, Ariz., is a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and is the son of Beth Ann Rutherford of Mesa, Ariz.

Grandparents Frank and Letha Beaver Rutherford.

Great grandparents are John and Della Beaver.

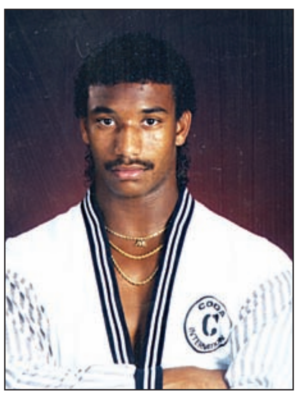
Deer Clan and Weogufkee Tribal Town.

Andrea Dale is Navajo, the daughter of Jim and Marie Dale from Cedar Ridge, Arizona, of the Salt People Born for Red Running into the Water people.

Her maternal grandfather is of the Many goats Clan and paternal grandfather is of the Black Streak People.

BIRTHDAYS

Anthony Q. Newman



TOPEKA, Kansas — Anthony Q. Newman celebrated his 44th birthday on Nov, 21, 2009 with a "Go Eagles and Rams" themed party.

He is the son of Tony and Reba (Marks) Newman.

Grandparents are Joseph and Rebecca Marks.

Great grandparents are John and Margaret Marks.

Chylah Lasue Camp

OKMULGEE — Chylah Lasue Camp celebrated her first birthday on Nov. 5, 2009 with a "Princess" themed party.

Parents are Kenneth and Casey Camp.

Grandparents are Chris and Amy Hill and Sue and Roman Yahola.

She is of the Bird Clan.

Miyana Kay Leybas

TULSA — Miyana Kay Leybas celebrated her second birthday on Sept. 26, 2009 at Mazzio's Pizza.

Parents are Asa and Meghan Leybas.

She has one sibling, Asaiah Jon Leybas.

Grandparents are Rev. Johnny and Nakina Leybas and Fred Bear and the late Rhonda Kay Bear.

Great grandparents are Clifford and Bertie Bear and the late Benny and Lillian (Albert) Leybas and Alice Freeman and Winfred Taryole and Fred Bear Jr. and the late Carolyn Tiger.

Jabaica Lee Tecumseh Jr.

MORRIS — Jabaica Lee Tecumseh, Jr. celebrated his fifth birthday on Nov. 16, 2009 with a "Transformers" themed party.

Parents are Jabaica Lee Tecumseh, Sr. and Varcessa Hoof.

He has two siblings, Alige' Tecumseh and Vcvsvmkv Rose Tcumseh.

Grandparents are Mandrell (Tuffy) Roberts and Isabell Rose Tecumseh. Great grandparents are the late Isreal Tecumseh and the late Scott Tecumseh.

He is the great nephew of the late Nero Lavis Tecumseh.

He attends school at Morris.

He is of the Tiger Clan.

Ethan James Allen Waquie

EUFAULA — Ethan James Allen Waquie celebrated his 12th birthday on Nov, 7, 2009.

He is the son of Lindsey Jo Waquie.

Grandparents are Patricia Fry and Joe Waquie.

Great grandparents are May Fry an the late Narbie Fry.

He attends school at Eufaula.

He is of the Bear Clan and of the Alabama Quasarte Tribal Town and the Hickory Ground Ceremonial Ground.

Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:

Roll Number:__________________
Phone Number: (___)__________
Name: ______________________________
Address:______________________________
Date of Birth: ________________________
Theme of the party:____________________
Parents: ______________________________
Siblings: ______________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
School: _______________________________
Clan: _________________________________
Tribal Town:___________________________

Birth:

Roll Number:__________________
Phone Number: (___)__________
Name: ______________________________
Address:______________________________
Date of Birth: ________________________
Name of Hospital: ______________________
Weight: ______ **pounds** ______ **ounces**______**inches**
Parents: ______________________________
Siblings: ______________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: _________________________________
Tribal Town:___________________________

Announcements:

Roll Number:__________________
Phone Number: (___)__________
Name: ______________________________
Address:______________________________
Parents: ______________________________
Siblings: ______________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: _________________________________
Tribal Town:___________________________
Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

SPOTLIGHT

Coming and Going in Indian Country: *The Christmas Spirit*

by Joy Harjo

Was it my imagination or did the Christmas season start earlier this year? I saw Christmas lights going up two weeks before Thanksgiving in Miami, Florida, and in the local Albuquerque stores Christmas came right after Halloween. I read this as fearful economics.

Basically economics is an exchange system. It describes the ebb and flow of what is materially valuable within individuals, families, clans and nations. Before the world cash markets we bartered. The money system grew from silver and gold mines, the lands and the labor of indigenous peoples of the Americas. It is a system that has sustained few yet required the labor of many. In our indigenous cultures it is morally unlawful to acquire wealth beyond need, and reprehensible to ignore the care of the needy.

A system created from trickery, sustained from the need of a few to control and own world markets is motivated by fear of not having or being enough. There will never be enough for the greedy. That kind of hunger is never satisfied. That hunger destroyed and dispossessed us from our original lands.

There is no separation between economics, social, political, or spiritual systems. Each is interconnected. The high rate of diabetes we are experiencing is directly related to crash and rally of the economic system. Each system within the whole either supports life, or it degenerates. For life to be sustained, whether it is a bio system like Earth, or a cultural system (each culture is an energetic system), there must be balanced flow in and out. To heal means addressing the source of the problem, to bring what is broken back into balance. It means changing the story.

We must return to the original teachings, which stress respect, dignity, creativity and forgiveness. In these teachings the power of the individual is a crucial denominator to the power of the whole. We must start at the root of meaning. What makes meaning that will sustain us? Does the acquisition and control of material goods by a few individuals serve all of us? How do we take care of what we have? And most of all, at the heart of the question is how we value who we are and who we are becoming.

We have to go back to the beginning of the story and remember why we are here and what we are truly about, as spirit beings that inhabit the earthly body. What do we need for true growth and fulfillment? How do we meet challenges? Do we take care of our resources? Are we generous? Do we take care of those who cannot care for themselves? Are we thinking and acting, with our descendents in mind?

We have to want the shift. We must acknowledge water and all of our resources as sentient beings and treat them as such. We must consider that our reason to be here is to serve each other, to be there in joy and sorrow. There is no room for laws that compel us to throw away our grandchildren, so there is more money for others. And perhaps most of all, we must take care of our collective imagination, to re-vision a system that will sustain and take care of all of us. We must create fresh stories and images that promote regenerative metaphor and meaning and give value to what matters. Artists, visionaries and those coming up feed the people with fresh images.

When you see the earth from the perspective of the guiding stars you know without question that we are one being, that what anyone thinks, speaks or acts grows the potential of the next generations. We then understand that no one can own the earth or what grows upon or within the earth, that there is enough for everyone. This is the true Christmas spirit. Imagine.

Behavioral Health services secures grant funding

• Children's Mental Health Initiative grant to focus on emotional care

Sandra Peters
MCN Health Systems

SAPULPA — Recently, a young man of 21 years of age closed his eyes for the last time by taking it upon his own person to cease breath on his own. In our Nation alone there are wounded children who have experienced life before they know what it is to live well. Is there a place (a set standard for position) where parents in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Behavioral Health Program of our Tribe can be of the same mind and active in the emotional care of our young men and women?

Today young people believe that they must experience life on their own terms before they have knowledge and understanding. Some children are confused and alarmed in life, because they have been abandoned by their parents or there is no support of standards. Sometimes we journey far away from the ancient time-honored nurturing roles of our ancestors. Behavioral Health is a branch of the Division of Health where one of the responsibilities is to provide counsel for our families and children. Behavioral Health is seeking to protect the future of our families through a comprehensive community mental health service for children and their families.

It is a "Children's Mental Health Initiative" grant through which the Muscogee Creek Nation acting through our Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse services, seeks to forge a comprehensive, data-driven and community-based "System of Care" program. The foundation of is this is for delivering culturally appropriate mental health to American Indian children.

Minor depression, drugs or substance abuse by a child or parent or suicide intervention are terms we are familiar with in the Nation. Tribal cultivating of a child is sacred ground to the Muscogee people... or it should be. Protecting their innocence and teaching them to be humble and respectful is one of the strongest teachings of both the traditional Muscogee family and those parents outside of conventional training.

MCN/Sandra Peters

Pictured above is Daley Tearl, a Llicensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health with the Children's Mental Health Initiative.

The services and project related activities will be culturally and linguistically appropriate and will be planned, developed, and evaluated with the full participation of youth and families. If a family honors the initial spinally growing journey of a child that information is relevant to the project. It could include from the womb to birth counsel. Expanding our current capacity to serve our children the project will utilize an individualized treatment plan and intensive case management. The project will act as a catalyst to promote genuine philosophical and systemic change across the current operational health care system.

Included in this project is the "Life Skills Curriculum" which includes among other topics, a Communication and Parent Child Issue focus. The communications curriculum will consist of objectives such as, "gaining an understanding of how communication is developed in families, blocks to effective communication, or how to reduce conflict using assertiveness training.

Since children continue to replenish our Nation's strength through their own labor, we recognize how important it is to communicate effectively out in the world, especially in the secular corporate levels.

American Indian (AI) children and youth, age 0-21 years of age, and their families will be served during the course of the project. The Behavioral Health Services will enlist tribal departments, Muscogee (Creek) Nation facilities, public and private child-serving agencies, consumers, and community members in the planning assessment, implementation, and evaluation phases of the project.

This answers the question of, "Where does the process began, who determines the need, what are the determiners, what and when are safeguards put in place?" (These are logical questions that need answers for parents who have the legal authority over their children).

Behavior Health may be able to detect a number of disorders which can cause serious functional impairment at home, school or work. Working with families and friends in the homes, schools, churches and communities we may act as a barrier against the social assault of our children and their positive journey into society.

Fife Memorial UMC gets new home

• Church members hold farewell services before changing location

Submitted by Joyce Deere
Fife Memorial UMC

Rowena Beach/*Courtesy*

Pictured above is the old Fife Memorial united Methodist Church which has previously been located at 901 E Okmulgee, in Muskogee.

MUSKOGEE — Oliver Neal was still excited when he got off the bus and rushed out of the bus station. Outside, he paused for a moment; Muskogee was beautiful! He felt in his pocket to see if the letter from "Brother Witt" was still there. A few minutes later Oliver was talking with "Brother Witt" at his home. They prayed together and shook hands. For Oliver had agreed to start a church for the Indians in Muskogee.

Lee Daney, a devout Methodist minister, was driving through Muskogee one day when he saw how the Indians needed a church of their own. Seeing a welcome sign of First Methodist Church, he and his family stopped and entered the chapel and prayed that God establish a church for the Indians. Burdened for the Indians who had no church, Reverent Daney told "Brother Witt." "Brother Witt," who is Dr. W.U. Witt, general superintendent of Oklahoma Indian Mission churches for the Board of Missions of the Methodist Church in New York, had sent for Oliver Neal.

Now, together, Oliver Neal, a young ministerial student attending college at Ada, and Lee Daney, now employed at Bacone College, quickly became the "two sent forth" on a mission. Soon Mrs. Sammy Corgan, member of First Methodist Church, joined them in God's plan to start a church for the Indians. They contacted many Indians every day for two weeks and then held a meeting at the House of Friendship of the Educational building of First Methodist Church. After the preaching service, Daney testified of his burden and Neal challenged them with the purpose of meeting. Twenty-seven persons of 60 people attending came forward to become members of the first Indian church in Muskogee, and that was June 3, 1946.

The newly organized Muskogee Indian Mission continued to hold services in the House of Friendship until 1952 when a new church was built with money raised by the congregation, a gift of $10,000 by Exie Fife Shelton, and a donation by the Board of Missions of the Methodist Church. When Bishop W. Angie Smith dedicated the church, the name Muskogee Indian Mission was changed to Fife Memorial Methodist Church in remembrance of Rev. Elijah Fife, a Methodist minister and father of Nell Hardin and Exie Shelton.

Today, while the church members are predominately Native American and the church is a member of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference, everyone is welcome. The rich culture and Native American traditions are being passed down to the children and youth in the practice of Tribal songs, history lessons, and cultural events by Mvskoke (Creek), Choctaw, Cherokee, Euchee, Osage, and Kiowa members. The church still has one of its charter members, Mrs. Mary Briggs, of Mvskoke (Creek) and Quapaw ancestry, in attendance at services and church sponsored events. Along with Mrs. Briggs are fourth and fifth generation members of the Barrows, Wilson, and Fleming families who began attending in the 1950's and 60's.

The First United Methodist Church, located just a few blocks away, has always graciously loaned the use of their kitchen facilities to Fife Memorial in early spring when the church has its annual Wild Onion Dinner. In 2010, Fife is looking forward to cooking and hosting the event in their new home church.

For 57 years, Fife Memorial has proudly stood on the corner of Okmulgee and K streets. Now the time has come to move to a new home. The church has been deteriorating and members have had fundraisers in the form of Indian taco dinners, bean dinners, chili dinners, ice cream float sales, the annual Wild Onion dinner, and the Azalea Pow Wow event in the hopes of one day purchasing land and building a new church. Also, there has been little room to grow and limited parking at the K and Okmulgee location.

Because the Fife family were of Mvskoke (Creek) heritage, the church members agreed their new home should stay within the boundaries of the Mvskoke (Creek) Nation. With assistance from the Mvskoke (Creek) Nation in the form of a sizeable donation, added to the church's building fund, and in exchange for the current property, the church is moving to a new location. Fife Memorial United Methodist Church will officially become Fife Indian United Methodist Church at its dedication on Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009, at 11 a.m. The new church is located at 1100 Eufaula Street.

Church members are very excited about their new home but also have mixed feelings about leaving their original building. A final worship service was held beginning at 3 p.m. on Sunday, November 29.

At that time, members of Fife Memorial United Methodist Church will remember the past and rejoice in the knowledge that God's blessing and guidance is with them as they look to the future in their new home.

OBITUARIES

BILLIE BALDRIDGE

COWETA — Billie Naomi Chalakee Baldridge passed away Nov. 20, 2009 at the age of 76 years. She was born on Dec. 4, 1932 to Legus and Nannie Chalakee at Coweta.

She was a lifetime member of Cedar Creek and also attended Tulsa First Four Square.

Preceded in death by husband Wilson Baldridge, both parents, brother Johnny Chalakee, son Warner Baldridge, and grandson Jerry Taylor.

She had six children: Catherine Rister of Belton, Missouri; Jimmy Chalakee of Bixby; Linda Taylor of Lancaster, Texas; and Billie Marie Bell of Tulsa and Wanda Kay Dover of Coweta.

She had 20 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren. She leaves four sisters: Betty Campbell of Keifer; Elsie Copeland of Tulsa; Mary Chalakee; and Sophia Lowe; and three brothers, James, Joe, and Tommy Chalakee, all of Coweta, and a host of nieces, nephews, and friends.

She worked at Hillcrest Medical Center / Kaiser Rehab for 17 years. During that time she was employed by Ken Davis as a Private Duty Nurse for Margie Davis. After retirement she was employed by Nelson's Buffeteria in downtown Tulsa until retiring a second time, at the age of 72.

ELIZA DAVIS

HOLDENVILLE — Eliza George Davis was born Dec. 10, 1935 in Hughes County, Okla., and passed away Nov. 22, 2009 in Holdenville at the age of 73 years, eleven months and 12 days.

She was born to Sarney George and Emma (Bruner) George. Eliza married Reverend Jessie Davis on October 4, 1979; he preceded her in death in April 1996. Her parents; a sister, Stella Harjo; and two brothers: Benny and William George, also preceded her in death. She attended Many Springs Baptist Church and will be remembered for her beautiful smile and gentle way.

Survivors are her three sisters, Nora Tiger, Mary Felicioni, and Nellie Baldwin; and two brothers, Mose George and Henry Factor; all of Holdenville. Eliza also leaves numerous nieces, nephews, and many friends.

SONNIE FOLEY

TULSA — Sonnie Foley was born July 16, 1938 in Holdenville to Joe Foley and Hattie Long Foley and passed from this life October 19 in Tulsa at the age of 71.

Sonnie spent his early years in Hughes County. He attended Hartshorne Indian Boarding School and later attended Haskell College in Lawrence, Kansas. There he excelled in sports, especially track and field.

Sonnie entered the United States Air Force and honorably served his country during the Vietnam Conflict as an Air Policeman while stationed in Europe. Following his discharge he came back to Holdenville in 1965.

He was married to JoAnn Dunzy and they made their home in Holdenville. They lived in different locations as his job required. Sonny worked for the Creek Nation before relocating to Oklahoma City to work for General Motors. They returned to Hughes County and settled in the Hickory Ridge community in 1975. Most recently he worked for Kialegee Tribal Town as a transport driver. Sonnie loved to hunt and fish and he enjoyed sports, especially when his grandchildren were involved.

Sonnie was a member of the Salt Creek Baptist Church where he was baptized last year.

He was preceded in death by his parents Joe and Hattie Foley, two brothers Kenneth and Tom, two sisters Wanda Foley and Josephine Prince and his son Mark.

Survivors include his wife JoAnn of the home, four children: Brian Foley of Wetumka; Larry Barnes (Lexlie) of Rhome, Texas; Jerry Foley of Wetumka, and Dana Foley of Weleetka; four sisters: Lela Lewis of Dustin; Anna Harris of Albuquerque, New Mexico; Maurine Foley of Wetumka; and Susie Kasero of Laguna, New Mexico; eight grandchildren, one great grandchild, and several nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends.

Services were held at Salt Creek Baptist Church in Wetumka on Friday, Oct.23, 2009 with Rev. J.B. Fish officiating and Rev. Eugene Whitlow assisting. Interment was at Salt Creek Cemetery.

Services were under the direction of Williamson-Spradlin Funeral Home of Wetumka.

JUDY WALKER

HENRYETTA — Judy Walker was born November 19, 1937 in Holdenville to O.C. (Ace) Roberts and Freda Burus Roberts and passed from this life November 28, 2009 in Henryetta at the age of 72.

Judy was raised south of Wetumka where she first attended Fairview school. In junior high she began attending school at Wetumka. She graduated Wetumka High School in 1956. On January 28th of that same year she was married to Norman Walker. They first made their home in Skiatook but Norman was soon drafted into the United States Army.

During his military service Judy moved to Weleetka. Following his discharge they again made their home in the Tulsa area for a short time but came home to Weleetka where they made their lifelong home.

Judy had only moved to Henryetta in February 2008 due to ill health. She was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother and her primary occupation was taking care of those she loved.

She was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Weleetka and had been a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. She loved to read and watch her favorite soap operas. In fact her husband would come home on his lunch break so that together they could watch "The Young and the Restless."

She was preceded in death by her parents and by her husband on June 3, 2005. They enjoyed over forty-nine years of marriage.

Survivors include: her children Cynthia Ann Tudor and husband James of Weleetka, Neal Owen Walter and wife Brenda of Morris; her grandchildren: Jamie Lee Geiswein, Ryan McKinnon and Cassandra Walker and her great grandchildren Lauren and Brenda Geiswein, and Brandon and Bryston Keys; two sisters, Rosa Johnson and Mary Abbot and husband David of Yukon; a brother, Scott Roberts and wife Jean of Oklahoma City; 2 sisters-in-law, Nancy Crawle and husband Tom and Barbara Dunn; a brother-in-law Howard Walker and wife Verna; along with several nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were Neal Walker, Scott Roberts, James Tudor, Ryan McKinnon, Richard Crawley, David Abbot.

Funeral services were December 2 at the First United Methodist Church in Weleetka with Reverend Don Williamson officiating. Interment will be at the Hillcrest Cemetery under the direction of Williamson-Spradlin Funeral Home.

THANK YOU

OKMULGEE — On behalf of the family of Norma Jean Bible and Gena Wesley, we want to express our appreciation for all the help we received during the loss of our loved ones.

Mvto to Muscogee (Creek) Nation, all our brothers and sisters in Christ, friends, relatives and most of all our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who sends the Holy Comforter to heal our broken hearts.

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“The Fife Collection: A New Generation”

Media Release
Broken Arrow Historical Society Museum

Dr. Betty Gerber/Courtesy

Pictured above (from left to right) are members of the Fife Family, Shelley Hill, Sharon Mouss and Sandy Fife Wilson, setting up “The Fife Collection: A New Generation” at the Broken Arrow Historical Society Museum. A reception was held in the exhibit’s honor on Sunday, Nov. 29, 2009.

BROKEN ARROW — A special exhibit, “The Fife Collection: A New Generation,” that includes works of 21 artists from a single family will be on exhibit at the Broken Arrow Historical Society Museum beginning Saturday, Nov. 21.

A “Meet the Artists” reception was held Sunday, Nov. 29 from 1 to 5 p.m., at the museum, located at 400 S. Main in Broken Arrow.

Two aspects of the exhibit make it extremely unique. First, all 21 artists are descended from the late Carmen Griffin Fife and Jim Fife, both artists with works in the exhibit.

Secondly, the mediums of the exhibit include a vast range: paintings, prints, sculptures, pottery, photography, textiles, shell engravings, basketry, wood carvings, leather work, bead work, weaving, and even writing by the Fife Family of Muscogee (Creek) artists.

Works in the exhibit have previously been on display at the Heard Museum, the Philbrook Art Center Indian Invitational, Gilcrease Museum Invitational, Smithsonian Institution, Heye Foundation Museum of the American Indian in NYC, NY, the Turtle Museum, Niagra Falls, NY and many other venues of art.

The show’s title was inspired by the label for a line of contemporary and traditional Native clothing designs that gained national attention in the early ‘70s, “The Fife Collection,” which was also a family partnership. Since the 70s, the family has grown; hence, this showing will introduce a new generation of family artists. Their creations are diverse and contemporary, but subject matter, motifs and shapes reflect a distinct character found in Muscogee art.

The exhibit includes a wide scope of work which begins chronologically with weaving, wood carvings, and painting by Carmen Griffin Fife, a student of the Santa Fe Art Institute and the University of Oklahoma, in the 1930s. Jim Fife, Carmen’s husband, made handcrafted items for his wife and children using various techniques, and they are also in the exhibit.

Carmen and Jim’s five daughters, along with their one son, have produced multi-dimensional artwork which will be on display. Major artists Jimmie C. Fife Stewart of Washington, Okla.; Phyllis Fife of Tahlequah, Okla; and Sandy Wilson of Morris, Okla; each began professional competitions and exhibitions in the 1960s.

They are joined in this family exhibit by their brother Bill S. Fife, former Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek Nation), and sisters Sharon Mouss of Henryetta and Robin Jenkins of Holdenville as contributing artists and professionals.

Third generation contributors are Maya Stewart, London, England; Colton Hyde and Ashley Hyde, Norman, Okla; Jeff and Thomasine Fife, Beggs, Okla; Sharry Mouss, Tahlequah, Okla; Stacy Pratt, Sackets Harbor, NY; Shelley Hill, Tulsa, Okla; James Fife, Holdenville, Okla; Clint and Megan Wilson, Glenpool, Okla; Dan Wilson, Stillwater, Okla; and Laura Wilson, Bentonville, Ark. Also exhibiting is Michelle Turpin, a cousin, Denair, Cali.

“The Fife family has worked collectively on creative efforts in the past, but should not be considered as holding a common attitude about art and creativity. Whether we work individually or in unison, the fact remains that each person has different capabilities and philosophies and that each was educated and disciplined independently and apart from the other,” said Phyllis Fife in a 1979 interview for the Southern Plains Indian Museum in Anadarko, Okla.

The exhibit at the Broken Arrow Historical Society Museum proves this statement. This historical, cultural, colorful, varied exhibit has been gleaned from painters, crafts persons, educators, tribal leaders, fashion designers, quilters, writers, basket makers, sculptors, and a saddle maker—all of whom generally have combinations of several talents and skills.

“Our father was a disciplinarian who expected the best we could give. Our mother was diplomatic and kind and a real teacher. We are all products of those combined genes of Jim and Carmen Fife: some have artistic talent, some are technical, some are academic, and some are just common old folks with a lot of knowledge gathered in life’s experience. Regardless of the method they used, our parents taught us to respect and love one another and to use our talents: it can’t be denied—it all came out that way,” offers Bill S. Fife of Dustin , Okla. He is a National Council Representative for Okfuskee District and former Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The public may view this Creek family‘s comprehensive exhibit of their arts and talents at the Broken Arrow Historical Society Museum, 400 S. Main Street, Broken Arrow, Okla., from Nov. 21, 2009, through January 9, 2010. Hours are 10 to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Friday and 10 to 2 p.m., Saturday.

For more information, please call (918) 258-2616.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Phyllis Fife studied art at the Institute of American Indian Arts, Santa Fe, NM; the University of California, Santa Barbara; and University of Oklahoma, Norman (BFA). She attained degrees in education at Northeastern State University, Tahlequah (M.Ed.) and the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville (Ed.D.). Her work has been exhibited in the Heard Museum, the Museum of New Mexico, Oregon State University, Philbrook Art Center, the University of Oklahoma Museum and Gilcrease Museum of Tulsa.

She has also had works in international exhibits and her work has been published in numerous books and journals. Her daughters, Stacy Pratt, Ph.D., a writing instructor at Jefferson Community College in Watertown, NY, and Shelley Hill, an NSU alumna from Tulsa, will have literary works and paintings in the exhibit.

Jimmie C. Fife Stewart, an educator recently retired from Washington (OK) Public Schools, is recognized as a Master Artist from the Five Civilized Tribes Museum. “My paintings depict life ways of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. My family was very traditional and we followed Creek customs. My paintings illustrate stories, medicine, culture, dress, and traditions that my people can recognize and relate to—natural things such as preparing food, hoeing the garden, or just reading a book. Sometimes I paint historic figures or contemporary subjects such as tribal elections. I also incorporate prehistoric Mississippian designs to show our cultural roots,“ says Stewart.

“Our extended family has maintained our original allotment land and our family farm has become a gathering place—where my seven brothers and sisters and I grew up. All but one of us attended boarding school in high school like our parents and cousins had done. And, we all come back to the place we call home. I am a member of the Raccoon Clan and the Tukvpatce Tribal Town,” she adds.

Professionally, she goes by Jimmie C. Fife; the family calls her Carole. She works mainly with gouache, fabric, and clay; however, she does not restrict herself to one medium or one type of art. In addition to her paintings, she designs traditional and contemporary apparel, accessories, and quilts using patchwork, appliqué, and ribbon work as well as beadwork and other traditional techniques. She has a BFA from Oklahoma State University , Stillwater; an Oklahoma Teacher Certification from the University of Oklahoma, Norman ; a diploma in Commercial Art from OSU School of Technical Training (now OSU Institute of Technology), Okmulgee; and Southwest Indian Art Project designation with Rockefeller Foundation Scholarship from the University of Arizona.

She has commissioned works at the Daybreak Star Art Center, Seattle, WA ; Robins Air Force Base Museum, Macon , GA ; Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. ; and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Memorial Park, Okmulgee . She has shown work at the Philbrook Art Center Indian Invitational, Gilcrease Museum Invitational, Smithsonian Institution, Heye Foundation Museum of the American Indian, NYC, NY; and the Turtle Museum, Niagra Falls, NY, to name a few.

Stewart will be joined in the exhibit by her daughter, Maya Stewart, a student of the London College of Fashion, and her grandson, Colton Hyde, a student at Northeastern Oklahoma A & M College, Miami. Maya will show designs from her prize-winning accessories collection—purses which emphasize Creek and Seminole design techniques.

Sandy Wilson, a recently retired art teacher from Morris, is the third major artist of the exhibit. She graduated from the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA), Santa Fe, NM, with an emphasis in traditional techniques, painting and printmaking. From Northeastern State University, Tahlequah she earned a B.A. in Art Education and an M.A. in education. Although she returned to IAIA to teach traditional techniques, her career has mainly been in Oklahoma as art instructor at Dewey Public Schools , Chilocco Indian School, and Morris Public Schools where she retired in 2009.

Wilson is currently working in clay sculpture, basketry, beadwork, finger weaving, print making, leatherwork, copper tooling, painting, and shell carving.

Recently, she won awards for shell carving and finger weaving at the Five Civilized Tribes Museum, Muskogee, Okla.; printmaking at the Creek Council House Museum, Okmulgee, Okla; and shell carving, printmaking and finger weaving at the Cherokee Holiday Arts and Crafts Show in Tahlequah, Okla. She also donated a finger woven wall hanging to the silent auction fundraiser held by the IAIA alumni.

In September, she demonstrated this technique at the Duck Creek Ranch Family Fun Day and will be using her expertise in several other groups. She is a master of intricate detail in her designs and artistic choices in her use of color—brilliant or subdued. Sandy is joined in this exhibit by her daughter, Laura Wilson, whose photography has won prizes at the Creek Council House Museum.

Other Fife siblings will be exhibiting along with some of their own children: Robin Jenkins; Sharon Mouss and her daughter Sharry; Bill Fife, his son Jeff and daughter-in-law Thomasine.

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Volume 2, Issue 11
www.themuscogeecreeknation.com
December 2009

Rebecca Landsberry

Letter from the Editor:

Happy Holidays readers!

Well here we are again at the year's end with 2010 just around the corner. I can't help but ask myself what will this decade be known for. Certainly the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, Hurricane Katrina and the election of the first minority American President will top the list.

For Indian Country, the strides we have made over the last 10 years have revitalized our languages, secured multiple forms of economic development across the globe and have strengthened our sovereignty by doing so.

With the recent settlement of the *Cobell* case, many tribal members feel that (a least somewhat) justice has been served. However, whether the federal government can put a dollar amount on all that is owed to the Native American people is (in my opinion, at least) debatable.

For the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the opening of the $195 million River Spirit Casino in March 2009 was more than a momentous occasion for the tribe. The same may also be said for the recent ground breaking on the new campus for the College of the Muscogee Nation this past month. By investing in the education of our people, the Nation is sure to reap the benefits for decades to come.

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

- Program Spotlight

Communications Department

SEE PAGE 5

- MCN Youth Page

Word Maze

SEE PAGE 8

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION FESTIVAL RODEO NAMED

2009 IPRA'S BEST NEW RODEO

Media Release
MCN Public Relations

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Rodeo, in Okmulgee, Okla. has been voted "2009 International Pro Rodeo Association Best New Rodeo of the Year" by the IPRA, which consists of more than 2,500 members. This year, the IPRA sanctioned 44 new rodeos throughout the United States and Canada. Twenty-three of the new rodeos were selected based on the amount of prize money and contestant participation to vie for the title of best new rodeo of 2009.

Dale Yerigan, IPRA General Manager, stated, "On behalf of the International Pro Rodeo Association (IPRA) I would like to congratulate the Muscogee Nation Festival Rodeo for being named the Best New IPRA Rodeo for 2009. The IPRA sanctions approximately 300 rodeos annually across the USA and Canada and it is a great accomplishment to be selected as the best."

"The IPRA is proud of all of its rodeo committees but to win this prestigious award that is voted on by thousands of members, sets this great event apart," Yerigan stated.

Cherokee Hicks, Director of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tourism & Recreation, stated, "To get an esteemed award as this is an ecstatic surprise! Knowing that these votes came from the contestants is very gratifying. It expresses their appreciation for rodeo and for a team of people that work to show them they are valued and want them to have a good time."

MNN/*Starla Bush*

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Rodeo was recently named the 2009 International Pro Rodeo Association's 'Best New Rodeo of the Year' by the IPRA.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Rodeo occurs each June at the Bob Arrington Rodeo Arena, which is a part of the Claude Cox Omniplex in Okmulgee. The rodeo is one of the biggest of the more than 35 events at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Annual Festival.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Rodeo will be honored Thursday, Jan. 14, 2010 at the Gold Buckle Gala which will be held at the Biltmore Hotel in Oklahoma City at 5:30 p.m. A bronze sculpture will also be awarded in January during the International Finals Rodeo (IFR40). For more information about IFR40, please visit www.ifrodeo.com.

For more information regarding the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Tourism & Recreation, call (918) 732-7992.

2010 U.S. Census participation emphasized by JOM

Angel Ellis
MNN Senior Writer

OKMULGEE — In a concentrated effort to raise awareness of the importance of Census 2010 participation, the JOM In-Service meeting hosted regional representatives of the U.S. Census 2010. The meeting was held at the Green Country Vo-tech campus and was attended by JOM sponsors of schools all over the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, who heard an important message from Census Bureau Regional officials such as Dennis Johnson, Edgar Midkiff and Susan Arkeketa.

The results of a Census affect how more than $400 billion per year in federal funding is distributed to state, local and tribal governments like the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The topics discussed by the speakers reiterated the impact participation in the Census has for tribes. The number of participants directly determines what entities receive funding.

United States Census 2010

Susan Arkeketa, United States Census Partnership Specialist, spoke about the time line for the Census.

"The Census results not only determine who receives funding and how much, but the data obtained counts for the next ten years," explains Arkeketa. "This Census campaign turn out - good or bad- will be the guideline used to calculate funding for the next decade."

A poor Census count could leave the Muscogee (Creek) Nation facing inadequate funding. However, this year's campaign "Indian Country Counts," is raising awareness of the important role the Native population plays in securing funding.

SEE CENSUS - PAGE 2

National Council Candidate Profile Retraction

Rebecca Landsberry
MNN Editor

OKMULGEE — The *Muscogee Nation News* regretfully acknowledges misprinted candidate profile information released in the December 2009 issue.

E. June Mustari's candidate profile should have included tribal experience that was mistakenly placed under Jerry Wilson's information.

We want to sincerely apologize to our readers for this mistake and any misunderstandings it may have caused. The corrected information may be found on page 3.

If there are questions or additional concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Communications Department for more information at (918) 732-7720.

SEE PROFILES - PAGE 3

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STAFF

Manager - Gerald Wofford
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Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed First Class from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

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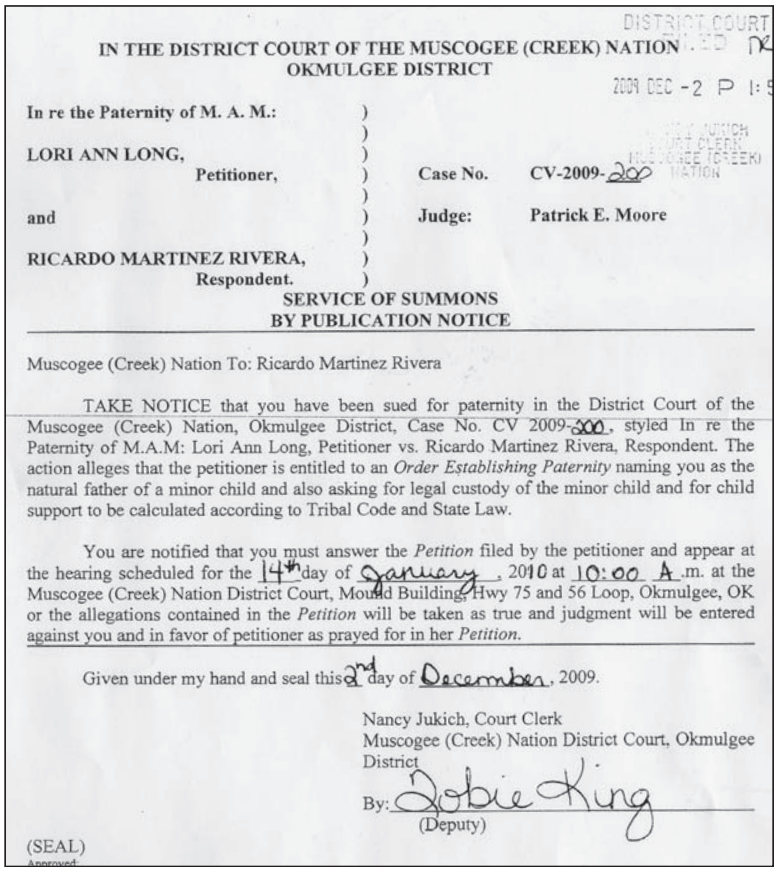


DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 DEC -2 P 1:5

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In re the Paternity of M. A. M.:

LORI ANN LONG,
Petitioner,

and

RICARDO MARTINEZ RIVERA,
Respondent.

Case No. CV-2009-200
Judge: Patrick E. Moore

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Ricardo Martinez Rivera

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for paternity in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. CV 2009-200, styled In re the Paternity of M.A.M: Lori Ann Long, Petitioner vs. Ricardo Martinez Rivera, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to an *Order Establishing Paternity* naming you as the natural father of a minor child and also asking for legal custody of the minor child and for child support to be calculated according to Tribal Code and State Law.

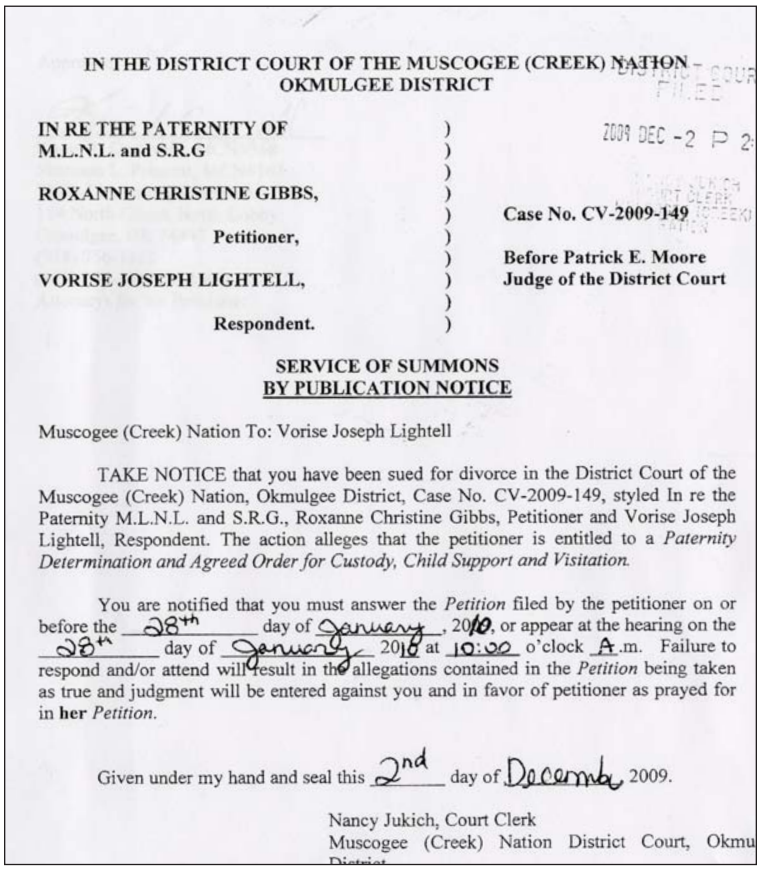
You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner and appear at the hearing scheduled for the 14th day of January, 2010 at 10:00 A.m. at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Mound Building, Hwy 75 and 56 Loop, Okmulgee, OK or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 2nd day of December, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Tobie King
(Deputy)

(SEAL)



DISTRICT COUR
FILED
2009 DEC -2 P 2

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION –
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN RE THE PATERNITY OF
M.L.N.L. and S.R.G

ROXANNE CHRISTINE GIBBS,
Petitioner,

VORISE JOSEPH LIGHTELL,
Respondent.

Case No. CV-2009-149

Before Patrick E. Moore
Judge of the District Court

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

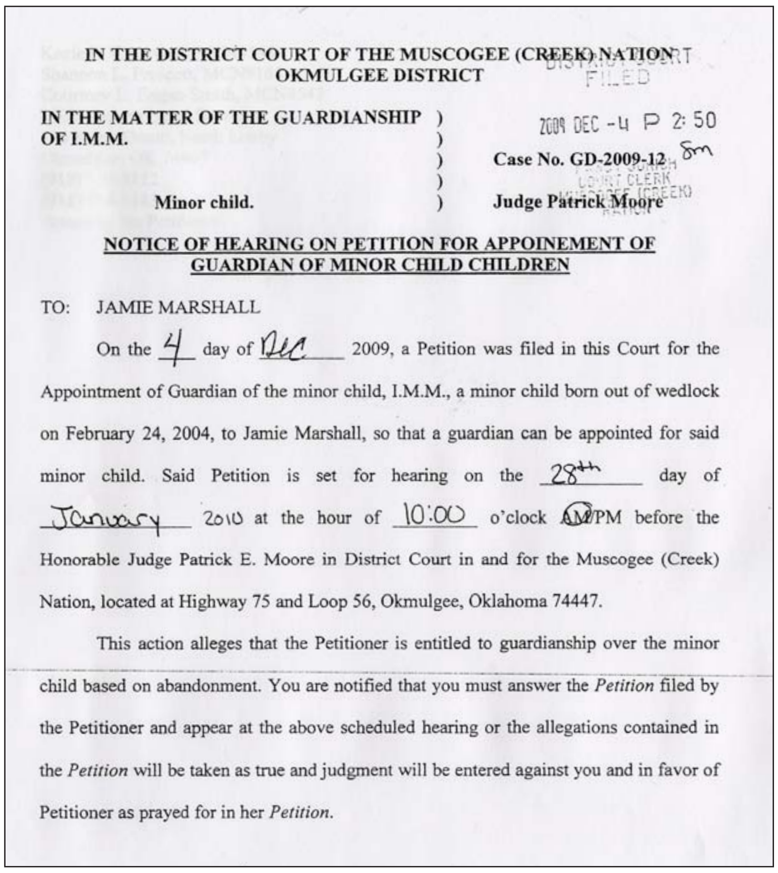
Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Vorise Joseph Lightell

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. CV-2009-149, styled In re the Paternity M.L.N.L. and S.R.G., Roxanne Christine Gibbs, Petitioner and Vorise Joseph Lightell, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Paternity Determination and Agreed Order for Custody, Child Support and Visitation.*

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner on or before the 28th day of January, 2010, or appear at the hearing on the 28th day of January 2010 at 10:00 o'clock A.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in **her** *Petition.*

Given under my hand and seal this 2nd day of Decemb, 2009.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmu



DISTRICT COURT
FILED
2009 DEC -4 P 2:50

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP
OF I.M.M.

Minor child.

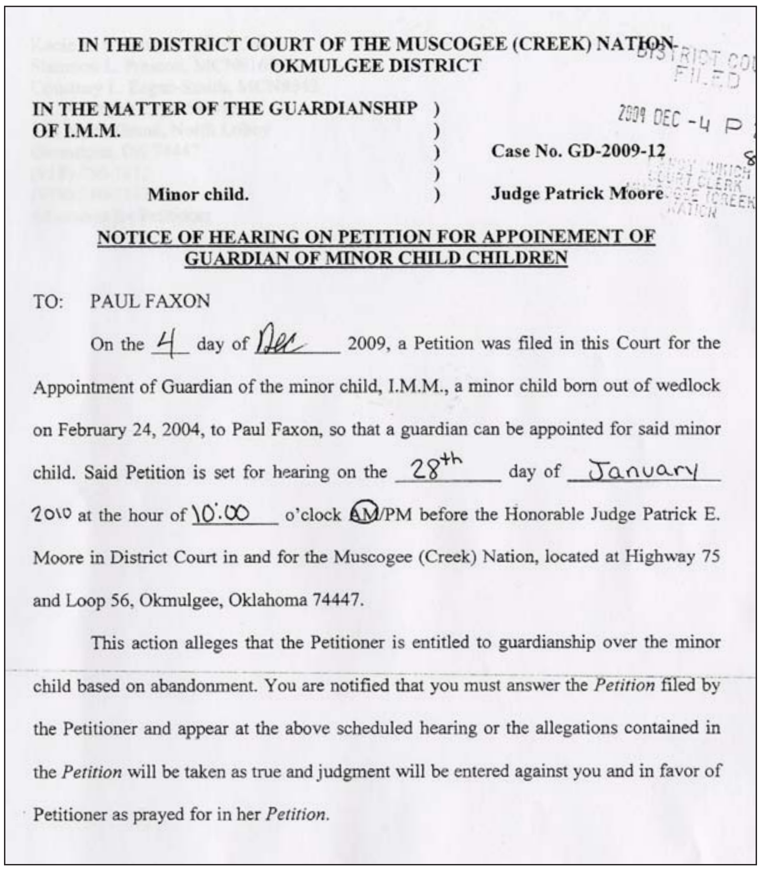
Case No. GD-2009-12 8m
Judge Patrick Moore

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR APPOINEMENT OF GUARDIAN OF MINOR CHILD CHILDREN

TO: JAMIE MARSHALL

On the 4 day of Dec 2009, a Petition was filed in this Court for the Appointment of Guardian of the minor child, I.M.M., a minor child born out of wedlock on February 24, 2004, to Jamie Marshall, so that a guardian can be appointed for said minor child. Said Petition is set for hearing on the 28th day of January 2010 at the hour of 10:00 o'clock [✓ AM]/PM before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in District Court in and for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, located at Highway 75 and Loop 56, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447.

This action alleges that the Petitioner is entitled to guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment. You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioner and appear at the above scheduled hearing or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.



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FILED
2009 DEC -4 P

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP
OF I.M.M.

Minor child.

Case No. GD-2009-12
Judge Patrick Moore

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR APPOINEMENT OF GUARDIAN OF MINOR CHILD CHILDREN

TO: PAUL FAXON

On the 4 day of Dec 2009, a Petition was filed in this Court for the Appointment of Guardian of the minor child, I.M.M., a minor child born out of wedlock on February 24, 2004, to Paul Faxon, so that a guardian can be appointed for said minor child. Said Petition is set for hearing on the 28th day of January 2010 at the hour of 10:00 o'clock [✓ AM]/PM before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in District Court in and for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, located at Highway 75 and Loop 56, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447.

This action alleges that the Petitioner is entitled to guardianship over the minor child based on abandonment. You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioner and appear at the above scheduled hearing or the allegations contained in the *Petition* will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Census

Continued from Page 1

Census data help guide local planning decisions, including where to provide additional social services, establish senior centers, and even help determine where to build roads, hospitals and schools.

Edgar Midkiff, Senior Partnership Specialist, American Indian/Alaska Native Regional Team Leader said, "It's never been so easy - ten questions - it takes only ten minutes, and it is so important."

By answering ten simple questions, funding for vital community services important to many older persons and retirees may be obtained.

Another aspect that was emphasized to the JOM volunteers, so that they may help spread the word in their communities is that the information shared in the Census is completely safe. By law the Census Bureau cannot share respondents' information with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities. Employees take an oath of nondisclosure and are sworn for life to protect confidentiality of the data. Punishments to breaking policies can be severe.

The Census Bureau is still looking for employees as well. Those who are interested in part-time to full-time work can expect a fair wage and mileage as reimbursement for their work at the bureau and even a possibility of furthering their employment opportunity.

While it is against policy for any of the Bureau representatives to council respondents as to how to fill out their Census forms, it is a fact that households, which are mixed ethnicity, can enter Native American if one of the adults of the household is Native American. Census Head of House hold status is not the same as income taxes; the title simply refers to the person who is filling out the form. Another important factor for the Head of House hold filling out the form to remember that they must list their preferred tribal affiliation by listing the entire name of the tribe.

For example, respondents should write out "Muscogee (Creek) Nation" instead of just "Creek."

Wrapping up the informative session, Edgar Midkiff said, "I am Oglala Sioux, and I count!"

Contact Josh Slane by phone at (918) 732 - 7638 or by E-mail at JSlane@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Dianna Lynn Billie

Seat: A
Name: Dianna Lynn Billie
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town: Concharty
Church: Concharty United Methodist Church
Family: Two children and seven grandchildren.

Experience: Resident of the Glenpool Community for the past seven years, currently serve on the board of the Glenpool Creek Indian Community as the Secretary. I am also on the finance committee and trustee committee for Concharty United Methodist Church. I have about 19 years of experience in different aspects of the gaming industry both nationally and internationally.

"I believe strongly in educating Creek citizens of all ages. I would like to see incentive programs implemented to encourage students to complete High School and increased incentives for graduates of higher learning. I believe in taking care of our elder citizens with respect and dignity. I believe that education, accountability on all levels of tribal government and a true spirit of service to the people is the key to moving the Muscogee Nation forward," Billie stated.

If elected, it would be an honor and privilege to serve the citizens of the Tulsa District.

Forbes Perkins

Seat: A
Name: Forbes Perkins
Clan: Sweet Potato
Tribal Town: New Tulsa
Church: Indian Fellowship Baptist

Family: Born in Bellflower, Calif., to Paula (Pinkie) and Lewis Perkins. My maternal grandmother was Nellie McCosar from Holdenville, Okla.

Education: Graduated from Haskell Indian Nations University in May 1995 an with AA degree in Liberal Arts.
Currently attending College of the Muscogee Nation, majoring in Native American studies, and Tulsa Community College, majoring in Graphic Design/marketing. "I feel that a person can never have too much education."

Experience: Currently serving on the Board of Directors for the Tulsa Creek Indian Community for four years, serving as the Sgt.-at-Arms, Vice-Chairman and now as Chairman. Employed as an AutoCAD drafter with Horizon Engineering, which is a Native-owned civil engineering firm that specializes in tribal needs including designing and/or improving tribal roads, casinos, hospitals and reservation schools.

"While serving on the Tulsa Board of Directors, I have seen what problems the tribe has to deal with. I deal with the tribe and I talk to current Council members regularly, seeing and hearing what goes on with the tribe and the government. I would not be a stranger to the council if elected, as many of the Council know me already. I would be the second generation of my family to serve on the Council. I want to help our people as much as possible. With my education background and my time and experience I would get serving on the National Council, I feel I can be a positive influence in the Native community," Perkins stated.

E. June Mustari

Seat: A
Name: Elanor June Mustari
Clan: Eco
Tribal Town: Arbeka
Church: Weogufkee Indian Baptist

Family: Spouse Eugene J. Mustari, Parents are Bailey and Mattie (Simpson) Bullett, Grandparents are Shelby and Lucy (Fields) Simpson and Solomon and Millie (West) Bullett.

Education: Private schools and two years at boarding school, graduate of Haskell Indian Nations University and attended business school for Accounting and Computer Programming

Experience: Fluent in Mvskoke language, active military (U. S. Air Force) – Honorable Discharge, Tulsa County Voter Registrar and Docent (Tour Guide) Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa, Tulsa's Stormwater Drainage Advisory Board, League of Women Voters of Tulsa and Oklahoma; Treasurer at both levels.

*Corrected additional experience: Tribal Experience includes Enterprise Board of Directors Chairman and Treasurer Tulsa Creek Indian Community, four years on Gaming Operations Authority Board, 1-1/2 years as Chairman, three years as Chairman of TCIC Business Board, 2008 Constitution Convention Commissioner

"By observation, I can see our government is having problems but we also have many good things happening. I care very deeply for our tribe. I do know a lot about the laws of our Nation and I will learn much more, fairly swiftly. Among other issues, I would like to see accountability and responsibility for whatever position one holds. Fiscal responsibility is at the top of my list. I want to see that tribal services are improved, including attitude, along with what we can provide. Nothing is done alone, and I am very willing and able to work with anyone, including other branches of our government, to achieve progress. I will not bill my message as 'for the good of the Nation' although that is what I will truly aim for. I cannot make promises I may not be able to deliver but I will try my very best for our citizens."

Carolyn Burgess-Billy

Seat: A
Name: Carolyn Burgess-Billy
Clan: Wotko (Raccoon)
Church: Celebration Church
Family: Parents were Woodrow Burgess and Rhoda Hicks Burgess; Grandparents were James and Elsie West Burgess and Robert and Lena Heneha Hicks; Husband, David Leslie Billy.

Education: Associates in Business Management at St. Gregory's University in Tulsa, Okla. Now working on Bachelor's in Administrative Leadership at the University of Oklahoma in Tulsa, Okla.

Experience: My experience extends to listening and helping people resolve issues on a daily basis. I have worked for State Farm Insurance for five years in the Regional Office as an Underwriting Service Assistant and during the past year have played a key role in bringing awareness, education and resources to the employees about the Native American culture and traditions.

"In my heart, I see the need for change. The kind of change that will put our Creek citizens on the same level as other tribes," Billy stated.

Community Calendar

• Challenge Bowl training set for Feb. 4, 2010

OKMULGEE — The Challenge bowl training will be held Feb. 4, 2010.

The high school competition will be held on Feb. 11, 2010, middle school competition on Feb. 18, 2010, and the elementary competition Feb. 25, 2010.

All training and competitions will be held at Burbank Schools, which is located at 209 S. Lakewood Dr., in Tulsa, Okla.

The registration deadline is Jan. 8, 2010. For more information contact Joe Martel, by e-mail at jmartel@muscogeenation-nsn.gov, by phone at (918) 732-7841 or fax at (918) 732-7844.

• Fife Collection to be featured in BAHSM

BROKEN ARROW — A special exhibit, "The Fife Collection: A New Generation," that includes works of twenty-one artists from a single family will be on exhibit at the Broken Arrow Historical Society Museum beginning Saturday, November 21. A "Meet the Artists" reception will be held on Sunday, November 29 from 1 to 5 pm at the museum, 400 S Main in Broken Arrow.

This exhibit will run Nov. 21, 2009 through Jan. 9, 2010 at the Broken Arrow Historical Society Museum. Hours are Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 2p.m. Special opening will be held Sunday, Nov. 29, from 1 p.m. - 5 p.m., and will feature a meet and greet with the artists.

For more information, contact Betty Gerber, Executive Director of the Broken Arrow Historical Society, located at 400 S. Main, in Broken Arrow by phone at (918) 258-2616

Community Calendar

• Notice from MCN Food Distribution Center

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Creek Nation Food Distribution Center is hosting tailgating sites throughout each month. At these sites the staff will take applications, recertify clients, and distribute commodities. This allows people to be on the program without having to drive to the distribution center in Okmulgee.

Benefits may be available to citizens living within the Creek Nation boundaries, with the exception of residents of Broken Arrow, Muskogee, Sands Springs, and Tulsa.

Contact the Food Distributions Program to request an application be mailed, come by the office, or download an application on the web site at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov. For more information contact (918) 756-3002.

• Newtown UMC Holiday Schedule

OKMULGEE — Please join the Newtown United Methodist Church as they celebrate the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ. The service will begin at 7 p.m. Wed., Dec. 23, and will be followed by a Christmas program.

Newtown UMC is expecting a visit from Santa Claus and his reindeer with gifts for everyone. The evening program will include a Christmas play, holiday songs and refreshments.

For more information, please contact Rev. David Dunson at (918) 758-7002. Newtown United Methodist Church is located on the northwest side of Okmulgee on W. Eufaula St.

• MFSI Greenhouse Workshops

OKMULGEE — The MFSI is hosting a details of greenhouse growing workshop at the OSU Extension Service located at the Okmulgee County Fairgrounds. The Instructional classes will take place from 10:30 a.m., to 4 p.m.

Mike Schenell, OSU extension specialist at OSU Stillwaters Department of Horticulture and Landscape Achitechture will be instructing the workshop.

For more information contact the MFSI office at (918) 756-5915.

Lucy Marshall-Spaulding

Seat: A
Name: Lucy Marshall-Spaulding
Clan: Sweet Potato
Tribal Town: Koweta
Church: Wekiwa Indian Baptist

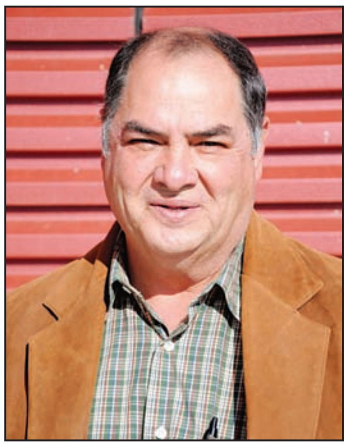
Family: Husband Jon, three sons, Shawn Marshall, Jeremy Coon, Cory Spaulding and one daughter Samaria Spaulding. Six grandchildren. Daughter oflate Captain and late Samaria Marshall. Maternal grandparents are Joe Buck Grayson and Lucy Lovett; Paternal grandparents are Rufus Marshall and Lizzie Gooden.

Education: Received an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Business from Haskell Jr. College

Experience: I am presently serving as Treasurer for the Tulsa Creek Indian Community Board of Directors since February 2008. I am employed with the Corps of Engineers for 36 years and I have worked for three months in Vicksburg, Miss., and Biloxi, Miss., on Hurricane Katrina.

"I believe that I can represent the Muscogee people with pride and integrity. If elected Council Person, I would serve full-time, not part-time, to expand on existing services i.e., Higher Education, Senior Citizens, Veterans; and to provide an economic development to the Nation that would increase jobs for tribal members; increase our land base, which means putting land into trust for future generations. I would work diligently with the tribe and with the other Council members and by working together we can accomplish good things for the Nation," Spaulding stated.

Jerry Wilson



Seat: A
Name: Jerry Wilson
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town: Tulsa Little River
Church: Tulsa Hills Baptist Church
Family: Son of the late Alfred and Ruth Wilson, widower, one son, Coy Wilson and grandson, Trez Wilson.

Education: B.S. Degree in Business and Master's Degree in Ed. Admin.

Experience: Wilson worked for the tribe in the early 70s, was the first editor of the *Muscogee Nation News*, worked in all three of the major divisions, served five terms on the National Council and served as the Executive Director. Wilson has owned and operated several small businesses, and received an award from the Small Business Administration as the Minority Entrepreneur of the Year. In addition, he worked for OSU for 23 years and retired last summer; and since that time has started a new business training allied health professionals in the field of pedorthics.

"I decided to run for office to use my experience for the benefit of tribal government. If elected, I would like to focus on improved health care, support for the tribal college, and new strategies for economic development," says Wilson.

Carol McHenry-Williams

Seat: A
Name: Carol McHenry-Williams
Clan: Beaver
Tribal Town: Turtle
Church: Lexington Road Family Worship Center
Family: Mother Gladys Bland McHenry and Father Lewis Tuskonah McHenry, Maternal grandparents Jeanetta Haikey Bland and Louis D., great grandfather Ben B. Haikey, paternal grandparents Jess J. McHenry and Louise Smith of Broken Arrow. Married to Ron Williams for 47 years with four children Rhanna Simmons of Tulsa Okla., Karrie Phillips of Sapulpa Okla., Candy Lillig of Broken Arrow Okla., and Shawn Williams of Grand Rapids, Mich.,. We are blessed with 16 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren who richly bless our lives.

Education: Associate Degree in Computer Programming from Tulsa Junior College while working full time with four children involved in sports, cheer leading, marching band and FFA.

Experience: I retired in 1997 after working 20 years for The Williams Companies a Fortune 500 Company and have 10 years experience as a Computer Software System Analyst. I currently work for AT&T as a customer service representative. I have been a member of Tulsa Creek Indian Community since 1991 and currently serve on the Tulsa Indian Affairs Commission and the Bylaws Committee.
Over the years my family has benefited from the many programs offered by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, now I would like to give something back to my people. I have developed excellent research and analytical skills with a strong math background. Some of my concerns are in the areas of more accessible health services, senior housing in the Tulsa District, and higher funding for education assistance.
"We need more synergy of resources, which can reduce the redundancy of information across departments and service agencies, and serve our tribal members more efficiently. I would like to serve you on the National Council by making wise and informed decisions. My priority will be to represent the Tulsa district tribal citizens but I want to be accountable and fair to all Muscogee (Creek) citizens, not only those who live within the Tribal boundaries but also those who reside outside the Tribal boundaries. Please allow me to represent you by voting for me in the election Saturday, Dec. 26, 2009," Williams said.

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Program Spotlight: Communications

• Department now serving citizens' design, printing and multimedia needs

Josh Slane
MNN Contributor

MNN/*Ruth Bible*

The Communications Department is located on the main complex of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, just south of the Lighthorse Administration Building.

OKMULGEE — According to Dictionary.com, the definition of the word 'Communication' is as follows, "Communication: Verb; A collection of routes for sending messages."

Falling under the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Executive Branch, the Communications Department does just that - serving as a collection of routes for sending messages.

So what kind of routes for sending messages through the Communications Department are available to tribal citizens? The answer might surprise you, dear reader.

First, and most obviously, is the bi-monthly newspaper, the *Muscogee Nation News*, which is a full-color publication with a circulation of 7,500 and an estimated readership of over 18,000 based on the standard 2.5 rate.

The *MNN* includes information from various departments within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as well as features, lifestyles, obituaries, letters to the editor, legislative and legal notices.

Editor of the *Muscogee Nation News,* Rebecca Landsberry, said working for the MNN comes with its challenges and responsibilities but is an extremely rewarding experience.

"The Editorial Division is always striving to make improvements which will make the publication more timely and informative for all citizens. It is thrilling to be part of such an exceptionally progressive department and to serve as the mouthpiece for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation," Landsberry stated.

She went on to say that the MNN serves a vital function for the citizens of the Nation and encourages them to familiarize themselves with the different divisions of tribal media.

"People can get their news from a variety of sources now with the T.V. show or by listening to the local radio program but we feel a great responsibility to our readers, many of whom live outside the jurisdictional boundaries, because the *Muscogee Nation News* may be one of only a few ways they feel connected to their government, culture and tribe."

Also on the printed side of things, the Graphic Design Division is able to design and print everything from banners to business cards and magnets to canvas. Working along side this division is Screen Printing, which designs and prints on T-shirts and more at competitive prices.

The Web Design division is responsible for the creation and maintenance of the Muscogee Nation Web site, ensuring information on the site is timely and also for the digital archives of various media such as the *Muscogee Nation News*, *Native News Today* and *Creek Beat*.

Citizens may also access various multi-media outlets including the weekly radio program, *Creek Beat* which airs each Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m., on KOKL AM 1240 hosted by Gerald Wofford and Rebecca Landsberry.

The radio program features news, events and information from MCN departments and communities from everything from wild onion dinners to voting information. Citizens may submit their community events by contacting Gerald Wofford at (918) 732-7635.

Native News Today, Oklahoma's only Native American, all-news television show, is broadcast throughout the state and rounds out the Multimedia Division.

The show is hosted by Jason Salsman and Gerald Wofford and features tribal news, events and information across Indian Country. Salsman stated that *Native News Today* is something the Muscogee (Creek) Nation can be proud of in addition to all the tribes featured on the program.

"We're obviously proud of the fact that for over three years now, we have been the only all-Native news format on network television. It's a testament to the vision that the tribe has, and also a belief in the people, that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is out front on this," he stated.

After noticing the price tags at professional photography studios for senior pictures, the Photography Division was created to serve Muscogee (Creek) high school seniors, allowing students to get their packages at a highly-discounted rate.

The program was such a success that last year the division expanded to include family portraits as well. Mallory Bible serves as Studio Photographer and may be reached to set up appointments at (918) 732-7639 or by e-mail at MBible@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Recently, two long-time employees, Lucas Taylor and Carla Brown, have left the department to pursue other interests, leading to the hiring of new manager and long-time employee, Gerald Wofford.

Wofford said his vision for the Communications Department is one with plenty of room to grow.

"It has always been an honor to work for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. I have served this tribe for many years and now to have an opportunity to represent the tribe in this capacity means a lot, both professionally and personally. There are a lot of challenges ahead and goals still to achieve, but I feel with the staff that makes up the Communications Department, we are more than able to accomplish these, and many more," he stated.

In the future, there are many endeavors the Communications Department is tackling, including official Muscogee (Creek) Nation social media sites which will be aimed at increasing the number of routes to get the various messages out to the citizens of the great Muscogee Nation.

For more information on the divisions or programs, please contact the Communications Department at 9918) 732-7720.

> *"...There are a lot of challenges ahead and goals still to achieve, but I feel with the staff that makes up the Communications Department, we are more than able to accomplish these, and many more."*
>
> -Gerald Wofford, Communications Manager

Community Calendar

• New Beginnings hosting tamale sale

HENRYETTA — New Beginnings Baptist Church will be selling tamales in order to raise funds for upcoming church activities.

Member Joyce Thompson has also been in the process of hand-sewing quilts for cancer patients and missions.

Canned foods are also being accepted for holiday food baskets.

For more information, please contact Joyce Thompson at (918) 652-3897.

• Youth Empowerment

OKLAHOMA CITY — The ODMHSAS systems of Care is providing "Part 2" of the Youth Empowerment and Healthy Youth Development training series.

Mr. Kevin White from VIP Community Services Inc., will be providing a youth empowerment training seminar to 25 selected SOC Youth and youth coordinators from across the state.

This event is by invitation only: The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has three slots available, two of which are for youth and one for the coordinator.

The training will take place on March 19, 2010 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Oklahoma Regional Training Institute. Registration is due for the Seminar Conference Call on Jan. 7, 2010.

For more information contact Marqus Butler at (405) 522-0994.

• Census Employment Testing

OKMULGEE — The 2010 United States Census is in the process of finding qualified job applicants and will be holding testing sessions in Okfuskee and Okmulgee County.

The Okfuskee County training will be held at the Okemah Chamber of Commerce located at 409 W. Broadway on Tuesday, Dec. 22.

The Okmulgee County training will be held at the Okmulgee Work Force located at 1801 E. 4th St., Thursday, Dec. 17.

For more information on Census jobs, call (580) 234-5712.

Community Calendar

• Concharty United Methodist Church Schedule of events

OKMULGEE — The Concharty United Methodist Church will be having a Christmas Eve Program Dec. 24, at 7 p.m.

The New Year's Eve Watch Night Service will be held Dec. 31, from 8 p.m. until 12 a.m., followed by a fellowship dinner.

Fifth Sunday Native hymn singing will be held Jan. 31, 2010 from 3-5 p.m., followed by supper.

Concharty United Methodist Church invites everyone to attend and welcomes everyone.

A Wild Onion Dinner will also be held March 27, 2010 from 11-3 p.m.

The Concharty United Methodist Church is located at 19040 Garfield Road in Okmulgee. For more information call (918) 366-8450.

AITCO's "A Song of Winter" sings again

• Hill comes home for the holidays as play celebrates fourth year

Media Release
Mahenwahdose

OKMULGEE — The American Indian Theatre Company is announcing the fourth performance season of "A Song of Winter," written by Will Hill, Native American playwright and Storytelling raconteur.

Photo Courtesy of Mahenwahdose

Pictured above are (left to right) are Jehnean Washington and Will Hill of Mahenwahdose performing the Christmas Play "A Song of Winter," written by Will Hill.

Like many of Hill's performances the play is filled with humor and highlights Christmas time in Oklahoma, Indian Country. The performance will top off a year of success for Hill and AITCO, following the hysterically funny, scary comedy "The Fearless Honkah Hunters," written by Hill and Winona Henderson, which was performed at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center in October.

The play, which takes place during the season of "Thunfoh Yuh Hay Gee Dah," the season of the popping trees, is filled with the comedic humor and antics of Hill and his professional training, mixed beautifully with the history, language, music, folklore, and dance of his Muscogee (Creek) traditional upbringing, including an "Ode to Commodity Cheese," highlighted in a funny, enjoyable song with the same title, written by Hill's performance partner, Jehnean Washington.

The acting ensemble of Mahenwahdose will once again fill the cast of this enjoyable holiday play, with Hill and the beautiful, seasoned Actress, Jehnean Washington, Hill's stage partner for the past nine years, herself an accomplished singer and music composer. The two actors, dubbed "The Dynamic Duo" by Native American Times, brought national archival recognition to the State of Oklahoma when they were the first American Indians to perform at the new National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian, Washington D.C., which was followed in November 2007 when they were chosen to represent Oklahoma's Centennial Celebration with 31 performances at Disney's EPCOT in Orlando, Florida. Additional members of the ensemble include talented actor Michael Buckendorf, Jr., who is in his fourth year with Mahenwahdose, Winona Henderson, Cherokee, who has appeared in every production and is cofounder of Mahenwahdose, Butch McIntosh, traditional Elder and Dancer, and newcomer Mick McEver, Cherokee, a University of Law graduate, successful Coweta attorney and Administrative Law Judge for the Cherokee Tribe, as well as undergraduate of Arts, Drama, Speech and Journalism from Northeastern State University.

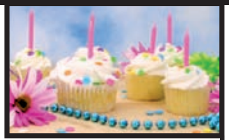
The play is being funded by the American Indian Theatre Company, The Oklahoma Arts Council, National Indian Monument Institute, Tulsa Indian Art Festival, Tulsa Performing Arts Trust and Prescor, Inc. Opening night will be Friday, Dec. 18 at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center at 8 with two performances on Saturday, December 19, a 2 p.m., matinee and 8 p.m., evening performance.

Come join us as we gather around the fire and share the voices of our ancestors, our traditions, our holiday songs, and the experience of a special holiday season.

Tickets are now on sale at the PAC ticket office in the Tulsa area by calling (918) 596-7111 or at 1-800-364-7111.

Birthdays, Births & Special Announcements!

Birthday:



Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)____________
Name: ______________________________________
Address:______________________________________
Date of Birth: ________________________________
Theme of the party:____________________________
Parents: ____________________________________
Siblings: ____________________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
School: _____________________________________
Clan: _______________________________________
Tribal Town:__________________________________

Birth:

Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)____________
Name: ______________________________________
Address:______________________________________
Date of Birth: ________________________________
Name of Hospital: _____________________________
Weight: ______ **pounds** ______ **ounces**______**inches**
Parents: ____________________________________
Siblings: ____________________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: _______________________________________
Tribal Town:__________________________________

Announcements:

Roll Number:____________________
Phone Number: (___)____________
Name: ______________________________________
Address:______________________________________
Parents: ____________________________________
Siblings: ____________________________________
Maternal and Paternal grandparents:
____
Maternal and Paternal great grandparents:
____
Clan: _______________________________________
Tribal Town:__________________________________
Please attach announcement

PLEASE SEND PHOTO(S) To: MCN Communications Dept. • P.O. Box 580 • Okmulgee, OK 74447

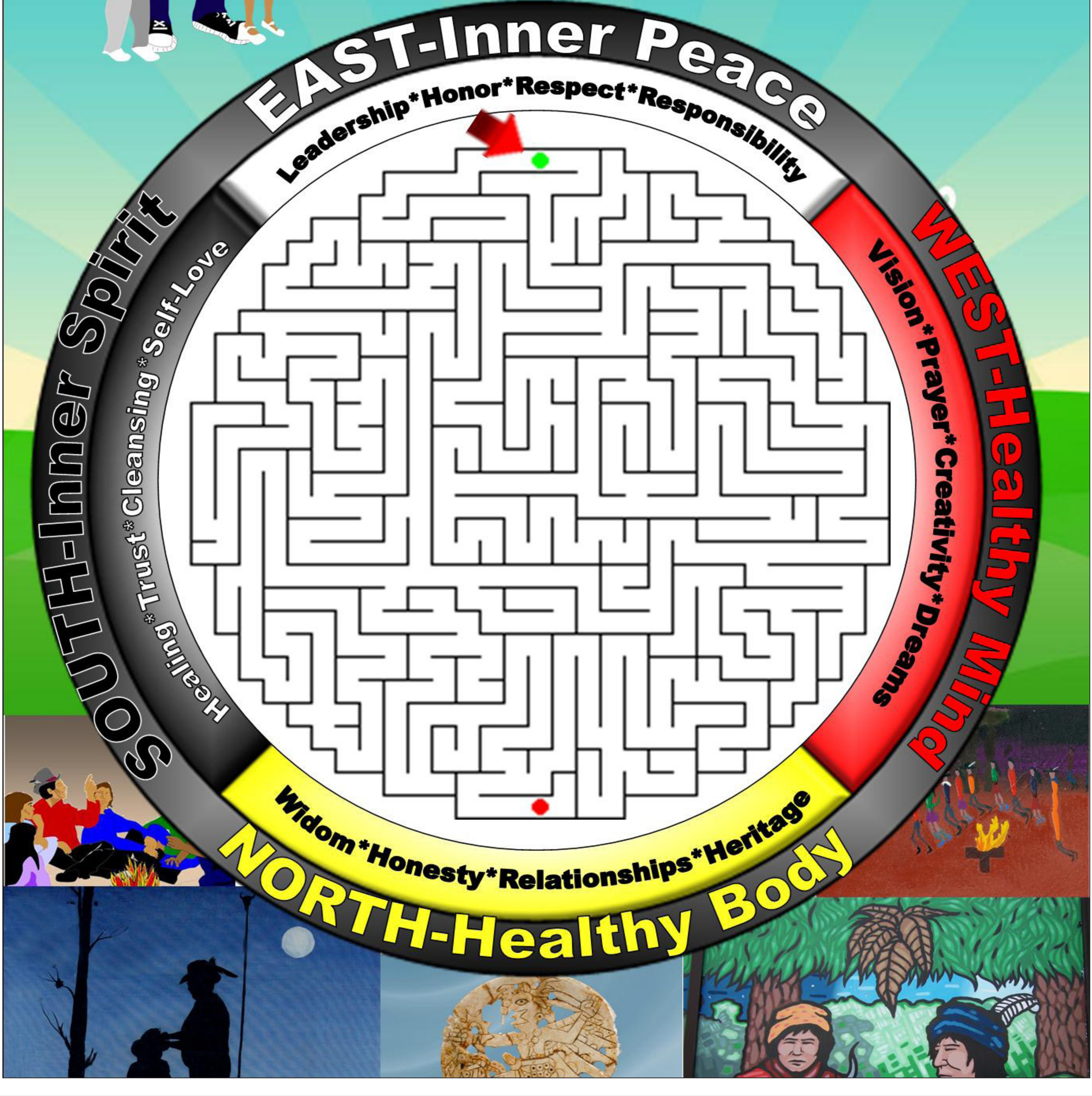
Contact Rebecca Landsberry by phone at (918) 732 - 7743 or by e-mail at RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Creek
Council House
Museum
Happy Holidays
Red
Stick
Gallery
Okmulgee
Downtown Square
Tuesday - Saturday

SACRED JOURNEY

The medicine wheel and symbols of circles have been used throughout history to teach how all things are connected and balanced in life. When you walk in a circle there is no beginning or end and it doesn't matter where you start. In the teaching of the medicine wheel , you can learn about your physical, mental, emotional and spiritual health.

Join Wind Warrior, Lvmhe, Mvhiya, and Yaha as they take their Sacred Journey through the medicine wheel. Start at the Green dot and finish at the red dot.


EAST-Inner Peace
Leadership*Honor*Respect*Responsibility
WEST-Healthy Mind
Vision*Prayer*Creativity*Dreams
NORTH-Healthy Body
Widom*Honesty*Relationships*Heritage
SOUTH-Inner Spirit
Healing*Trust*Cleansing*Self-Love